Hafa Adai!

Demapan is new House speaker in leadership switch. » PAGE 3

CHC nurses get salary increase. » PAGE 5

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 7

www.saipantribune.com | TUESDAY JANUARY 12, 2016 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

Tributes for Inos pour in

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Government officials and off-island dignitaries paid their final respects to the late governor Eloy S. Inos yesterday at the Borja Funeral Homes in Oleai.

Wearing black suits and ties, leaders from the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam legislators, and federal officials, among many others, filed in and out of the aisle of the Borja Funeral Home to pay their final respects.

As they left, the officials hug or shook hands with Inos' family and relatives who were seated inside.

The event began at 1pm and was over before 3pm yesterday.

Visiting officials called Inos' passing a big loss to the Commonwealth, to his own family, and to those fami-

See INOS on Page 4

Government officials and dignitaries pay their final respects to the late governor Eloy S. Inos at the Borja Funeral Home.
DENNIS B. CHAN

FUNERAL SCHEDULE

- 7:30am: Funeral cortege departs Borja Funeral Home for Mt. Carmel Cathedral
- 8am: Responso and Holy Rosary
- 8:30am - 2pm: Public visitation and respects
- 2pm: Visitation and last respects by immediate family only
- 2:40pm: Eulogy by Rep. Angel A. Demapan
- 2:55pm: Message of appreciation by Associate Justice Perry B. Inos
- 3pm: Mass of Christian burial
- 4:30pm (approximate): Interment at CK Cemetery where there will be a presentation of U.S. and CNMI flags and 21-gun salute.

Man thrown from truck dies

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Police arrest driver of Matrix that caused crash

Police arrested on Sunday night the driver of the car that collided with a pickup truck near Sugar King Park in Garapan after the passenger who was thrown from the truck died at the hospital.

Yi Wang, 53, a Chinese music teacher, was served with an arrest warrant at his residence in China Town at 8:03pm on charges of homicide by vehicle and unsafe driving.

The pickup truck's passenger, Ro-

See MAN on Page 4

JUST 2 WEEKS AWAY FROM JURY TRIAL

OAG drops charges vs former Rota mayor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Just two weeks away from a scheduled jury trial on Rota, the Office of the Attorney General moved yesterday to drop the charges against former Rota mayor Melchor A. Mendiola and four other former Rota municipal employees.

Assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley requested the Superior Court to dismiss the criminal case against Mendiola and co-defendants Stacey Atalig, Tina Atalig, Alfred Apatang, and Bernard Apatang.

"The Commonwealth believes the…case should be dismissed in the interest of justice," said Baisley in the motion. He did not cite a reason.

See OAG on Page 4

INSIDE

ASIA
North Korea's Kim Jong Un touts his country's recent nuclear test as a victory.
» PAGE 16

WORLD
Mexico begins the process of extraditing drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman to the U.S.
» PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE
David Bowie, the iconic and shape-shifting British singer, has died.
» PAGE 21

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

IT&E Life In Motion

It's BACK!
DOUBLE YOUR DATA

Get 20GB of 4G LTE data.
4G LTE SMS 23 Nights& Weekends TALK
Motion! 4G mobile rate & data plan
$80 10GB 20GB

Local

Raw sewage leak making its way to main road

By DAISY DEMAPAN
daisy_demapan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A stew of raw sewage has been making its way to the main road in As Terlaje for over two months, according to a concerned citizen who lives near the area.

The stench of the leaking sewer, he said, has been smoldering in the heat for the past few days as it puddles near the main highway.

Black mold, fungus, and decaying fecal matter is noticeable with the downward wind flow.

Saipan Tribune learned that the concerned citizen, who asked not to be named, had reported the issue four times to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. since November and later reported the issue to the Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality.

DAISY DEMAPAN

Raw sewage that has been overflowing for over two months puddles near the main road leading to the As Terlaje hill.

DAISY DEMAPAN

Raw sewage overflows through a manhole, which has resulted in black mold, fungus and the stench of decaying fecal matter on the dirt road between Coco Building and Sunrise Inn across the intersection of the Northern Marianas College.

The raw sewage leak, he said, is located on a dirt road between the Coco Building and Sunrise Inn.

A manhole that is almost enveloped by grass illustrates the abundance of raw sewage that has been leaking over the past few months.

"I talked to [an employee] of wastewater. We talked twice and he said he is still looking into it. They said they are still investigating the matter" but "CUC still hasn't responded to my four inquiries since November. It's a CUC line and why hasn't CUC done anything? I am concerned because it's a health hazard," he said.

The combination of heat and rain in the past few months has resulted in the growth of black mold in the area, which passersby have no choice but to pass over when crossing the area.

"On a dry day, there's still a puddle. How can you think nothing is wrong when it's not natural water?" the concerned citizen added.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a national enforcement initiative to keep raw sewage contained has been in effect for the last three years.

The EPA states that, "raw sewage overflows and inadequately controlled storm water discharges from municipal sewer systems introduce a variety of harmful pollutants, including disease-causing organisms, metals, and nutrients that threaten water quality and can contribute to disease outbreaks, beach and shellfish bed closings, flooding, stream scouring, fishing advisories, and basement backups of sewage."

Despite performing extensive repairs due to a water leak in the same area last month, CUC has yet to address the sewage issue.

Saipan Tribune contacted BECQ and CUC for their response on the matter but no comment was received as of press time.

LEGEND
REALTY

Exclusive Real Estate Agent for
Best Sunshine International
and Representing Multiple Investors
throughout Asia

SEARCHING FOR:
Hillside property or
View property or
Beach front property or
Beach Road property or
Rural property

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 202
670-484-5821
legendrealtycnmi@gmail.com

INFORMATION REQUIRED:
Map location
Total Area
Building area (if with existing building)
Title information
Asking price

CLUB C
CASINO & ENTERTAINMENT
YOUR CASINO AND ENTERTAINMENT PARADISE IN SAIPAN
Tuesday
Cocktail
Night
Absolut and Chivas Cocktails @ $5.00
5:00pm to 10:00pm
FREE appetizer per table
Come and listen to Mike Blue sing R&B
OPEN DAILY: 12:00 noon to 4:00 a.m. | 234-0088 | www.clubcsaipan.com
Must be 18 to enter and 21 to consume alcohol | Designated Smoking Game Area
Located at the Lobby of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe
www.facebook/clubcsaipan
WiFi

Demapan is new House speaker in leadership switch

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As expected, the House of Representatives reorganized yesterday to elect vice speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan) to the speaker's seat and former speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) as vice speaker.

The leadership switch culminated a verbal promise the two made a year ago to break the impasse in votes for the speakership position. Guerrero and Demapan had agreed that Guerrero would hold the seat for first year of the 19th Legislature and Demapan, the second.

That was move was unprecedented and has since been criticized by members of the House minority bloc. But yesterday, the switch went relatively smoothly, with 19-votes and one abstention for reorganization. The election of Demapan was done by acclamation. And Guerrero garnered an overwhelming 19 "yes" votes to place him as the chamber's next vice speaker.

After the vote for Demapan was over, the packed House chamber and lobby outside erupted in applause. Demapan left his seat to climb the steps to the speaker's seat, while Guerrero stood up to shake his hand.

During his remarks, the new speaker called Guerrero "a man of his words."

"As we move forward in 2016, let me be the first to extend my hand to each of you," said Demapan. "There will be some issues that will be politically difficult but I assure that if we work together results will happen."

Demapan said cooperation means a timely passed government budget, protecting and preserving the retirement system, and solving the government's outstanding debts with "innovative solutions."

If not, Demapan said, "there will soon be an emergency government crisis."

During the session yesterday, minority bloc member Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) said, "It was no secret that this house was broken or split" but looking forward, he hopes they can solve issues like the over $9 million shortfall in fiscal year 2015.

Vice speaker Guerrero's message to Demapan was "to allow for deliberation."

Guerrero said, "A well-scrutinized bill is a good product," and thanked members on both sides of the aisle.

Members of the Guam Legislature attended the House leadership switch. Sens. Tony Ada, minority leader of the 33rd Guam Legislature, and Sen. Mary Torres and Speaker Judith Won Pat were present.

DENNIS B. CHAN
Outgoing speaker Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero, left, shakes the hand of the new speaker, Rep. Ralph Demapan.

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

Glushko's
Academy of Performing Arts
Dance classes for
ALL AGES and levels
From 3 years old to Adults
All ballet students will have
unique opportunity to perform on
staged together with guest
World Class Ballet Professionals.
We offer Family Discounts!
Call: 483-6271, to
enroll or arrange
for FREE TRIAL CLASS
Send an e-mail:
glushkosacademy@
yahoo.com
We located on
2nd floor of
Marianas
Business Plaza
Check our page on
FaceBook!

It's BACK!
DOUBLE
YOUR DATA
Swipe, tap and pinch your way through hundreds of great features
Download thousands of apps to increase your productivity
Capture life's most important moments with photos or videos
Better battery life means less time charging and more time charging ahead
IT&E's blazing fast 4G LTE network makes your life in motion awesome
Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge Plus (32Gb) $379
Get 20GB of 4G LTE data.
4G LTE SMS 23 Nights& Weekends TALK
$80
Motion! 4G mobile rate & data plan
10GB
20GB
IT&E
Life In Motion
682-4ITE / ite.net
*Terms and conditions apply.

Gadgets at stake in Coke grand drawing today

High-tech electronics will be raffled off when Coca-Cola holds the grand drawing for its "Share Holiday Happiness" promo at Joeten Shopping Center in Susupe at 5pm today. The grand prize is a 64-gigabyte iPhone 6 Plus and a Playstation 4. Other prizes include an iPad Air for first prize and major prizes that include shopping sprees, Subway cash card, gas vouchers, and restaurant packages.

Customers have unlimited chances of winning. At the second drawing, winner Elisa V. Fetalvero won twice, bringing home a shopping spree certificate and a Subway Cash Card.

Fetalvero, a 48-year-old resident of San Jose, said she could not believe that she won at all, much less that she won twice, as this was her first time to win.

The winner said that she would share her winnings with her three children, ages 24, 26, and 28.

A long-time contract worker, Fetalvero said that Coke has been her favorite drink long before she set foot on Saipan in 1998.

"I always buy Coke in bottles but I switch to cans during the holidays so I can join the promo," Fetalvero said.

Her work in Papago enables her to spread out her entries at stores in San Vicente, Dandan, and her home village.

Ailene Benevidez, assistant operations manager, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc., accepts an entry for verification from Alex Lauron, store manager, Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Center. They are assisted by Zack Cruz, business consultant, also from Coca-Cola.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

John Demapan, a COTA employee, who won a restaurant package for five, is also a first-time winner.

"I had entered only one coupon, so I didn't want to get my hope up. This is my first time to win. I'm pretty happy. I'll definitely share the happiness," Demapan said.

Completing the second drawing winners are James Fuller and Mariano Bermudes, who each won gas vouchers; Lee Suiugkuem, a restaurant package; and Abigail S. Babauta, a Subway Cash Card.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday and many more blessings to our beautiful mother, Doll B. Deleon Guerrero! No words can describe how fortunate, blessed and special we are in having such an awesome woman! We are truly grateful for the golden heart and priceless love you have given to us all. Enjoy and smile, my Mama! Much love coming out from the entire family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MAN

From Page 1

meo Sumilang, 53, a Filipino, was pronounced dead by a doctor at the Commonwealth Health Center on Sunday at 8:58am, according to traffic investigator Norris Kwon.

Sumilang, a construction worker, reportedly sustained severe head injuries.

At a bail hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho retained the $25,000 cash bail that the court earlier imposed on Wang.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Wang. Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen appeared for the government.

Preliminary hearing will be on Jan. 15 at 9am.

Traffic investigators determined that Wang, the driver of the blue 2005 Toyota Matrix five-door wagon, caused the three-car crash that happened near Sugar King Park in Garapan on Thursday at noon.

Sumilang was a passenger on the bed of a white 1990 Toyota Hilux pickup truck.

The truck's driver, Abad S. Santos, 45, a Filipino, was treated at the hospital and was later released.

The truck's front passenger was Santos' brother, Arnel S. Santos, 53, who was treated at the hospital due to pain in the chest and lower extremity, and was later released.

The driver of a blue Honda Civic, a 47-year-old local female, was not injured.

According to a report prepared by traffic investigator Kwon, during an interview with police officer Juan Mendiola at the scene, Wang admitted to entering the Chalan Pale Arnold Road after visiting a nearby hardware store, then switching lanes from the outer to the inner lane in his attempt to make a left turn into Kopa Di Oru Street to head to his residence.

Kwon said that Wang was switching lanes from the outer lane to the inner then attempted to make a left turn into an intersection, which altogether is an unsafe distance of less than 100 feet.

Wang's Toyota Matrix, which was lower than the Toyota Hilux pickup truck, struck the truck's right side undercarriage, causing it to lose balance, tilting to its left side until coming to a final rest upside down.

Sumilang was thrown off the truck's bed due to the impact from Wang's car. Sumilang's head hit the pavement, causing severe head injuries.

Medics transported Sumilan to CHC's emergency room, where he was admitted to the intensive care unit for observation with "critical" status and connected to a life support device.

Kwon said he made daily follow-ups on Sumilang's status at the ICU but there were no signs of improvement.

Kwon said a family member informed him on Sunday morning that a doctor had pronounced Sumilang dead that day.

INOS

From Page 1

lies that were close with him.

Inos, who passed away two weeks ago due to complications from diabetes, will be buried today at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery after a funeral service at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. The funeral cortege is set to depart the Borja Funeral Home for the cathedral at 7:30am today. The public will have a chance to visit and pay their respects at the cathedral from at 8:30am to 2pm.

A Mass of Christian Burial presided by Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron and the clergy of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa will follow at 3pm, then internment at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery at about 4:30pm. The funeral Mass will be broadcast live on Channel 60 starting at 2:40pm.

The sight of Inos' repose was tough on some officials yesterday. Like during his arrival on Saipan last Friday, there were hugs shared among those close to him.

With tears in his eyes, Willie Tan—CEO of Luen Thai Enterprises Ltd.—hugged special assistant of administration Esther Fleming as he stepped out of the funeral home.

Calling him a "great brother," Tan remembers Inos—a former top executive of Tan Holdings—as a great leader who loved serving the people of the Commonwealth even while working for Tan Holdings in the private sector. Tan said Inos used his excess time to continue his public work.

Tan hopes the CNMI will continue and embrace Inos' vision for the Commonwealth and the foundation he left behind to make the CNMI a better place to live. He described Inos as intelligent and one who "knew his numbers." Inos was a good negotiator and liked to listen first, added Tan.

"I knew he was struggling with his health for awhile. We were talking about it," said Tan, who added he was with Inos during a previous surgery and visited him during a checkup in Manila.

"I miss him. It is very difficult on me," Tan said. "I don't have many people that I talk to probably every other week, and he happened to be one of them. I miss his call and talking to him."

Federated States of Micronesia Vice President Yosiwo P. George called Inos a "dedicated" statesman. He said he had worked with Inos during the Trust Territory days—when Pacific islands like the Marshall Islands, FSM, Palau, and the CNMI worked under one U.S.-controlled administration. Inos' finance skills was in demand, George said.

"It's sad that we have to meet on an occasion like this," added George. "But…I am glad to be here to pay my respects."

"As a player in the region, he contributed—not directly with the [FSM] and or other entities—but being a Commonwealth of the United States, we were still talking about the issues of the region—environmental issues, climate change. Regardless of whatever political affiliation, we still shared the same kind of concern. He's been a very good supporter and contributed to the effort."

Inos was detailed and "very meticulous"—great characteristics of man of finance, Bank of Guam CEO, president, and chair of the board Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero told reporters yesterday.

"His work ethics are excellent," she added. "Bank of Guam was humbled by his leadership."

Guerrero said that Bank of Guam officials were there to "continue that friendship" and offer condolences to Inos' family.

Former Department of the Interior assistant secretary of insular affairs Anthony Babauta worked with Inos when he was lieutenant governor under former governor Benigno R. Fitial. During that time, issues like the transition from local to federal immigration, trying to find better opportunities for locals to enter the job market, and improve 24-hour water service to Saipan were front and center.

"Saipan has had a very difficult time with its economy," said Babauta. "Some of the political challenges in the past I think have just made it difficult for CNMI's economy to make some significant steps forward."

In light of this, Babauta remember Inos as "a good man, a good leader, thoughtful, and one who was caring, and hardworking throughout." He said it was easy to discuss details of any issue with the late governor.

"Whether he was briefed on it or not," Babuata said, "he was someone who could pick up on those issues very quickly. …We were fairly serious in the endeavors that we were trying to do. Trying to do good things and do the right things for the CNMI were of paramount importance."

OAG

From Page 1

The prosecution, however, could still re-open the case in the future.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho will hear the government's motion on Wednesday at 1:30pm.

The trial was set for Jan. 25, 2016.

The government's earlier sought to add another charge—possession or removal of government property—against the defendants but Camacho denied the request, saying that adding another offense that would require a different defense strategy to close to trial prejudices the defendants.

The defendants are charged with theft. They all pleaded not guilty.

According to the first amended information, Mendiola took nine picnic tables owned by the Rota Mayor's Office on and between September 2014 and Feb. 26, 2015.

Alfred Apatang is the former field supervisor of then-mayor Mendiola. He is accused of stealing a Toshiba Satellite laptop valued at $975 that belonged to the Rota Mayor's Office.

Bernard Apatang allegedly stole a Toshiba Satellite laptop from the Rota Office of Finance worth $975.

Stacey Ann Atalig is accused of stealing a Toshiba Tecra laptop from the Rota Office of Finance valued at $2,049. She is a former Rota Finance resident director.

Tina Atalig allegedly stole a Toshiba Satellite laptop worth over $250 and less than $20,000 belonging to Rota Mayor's Office. She was the secretary of then-mayor Mendiola.

Office of Public Auditor Task Force officer JB K. Cepeda stated in his report that they initiated the investigation after receiving a letter from Rota Mayor Efrain M. Atalig, requesting assistance to look into Mendiola's "questionable transactions."

Cepeda said Atalig apparently discovered that government properties such as computer laptops, folding tables, typewriter, and other items were unaccounted for or missing.

AFTER MORE THAN A DECADE

CHC nurses get pay hike

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After almost 15 years, a pay increase was implemented for all the nurses of the Commonwealth Health Center.

According to CHC director of nursing Leslie Camacho, the nurses were given a 2-percent increase on their annual rates across the board.

The pay hike was implemented from December to the beginning of this year, she said.

The average pay for a registered nurse with experience at the hospital is $33,345 per annum. This rate never moved since the 2001 austerity measures of the CNMI government.

The increase would add more than $6,000 to their total pay for the year.

Camacho said the nurses appreciate the additional earning.

"Any increase at this point is definitely helpful," she said.

She said the move was a one-time increase for nurses while they wait for the restructuring of the nurses' salary as was proposed prior to the end of 2015.

"It's not a huge jump but it's definitely worth receiving. It's nice for them to get extra while they wait for the salary restructuring," Camacho said. "[The chief executive officer] is still working on the restructuring of the salary."

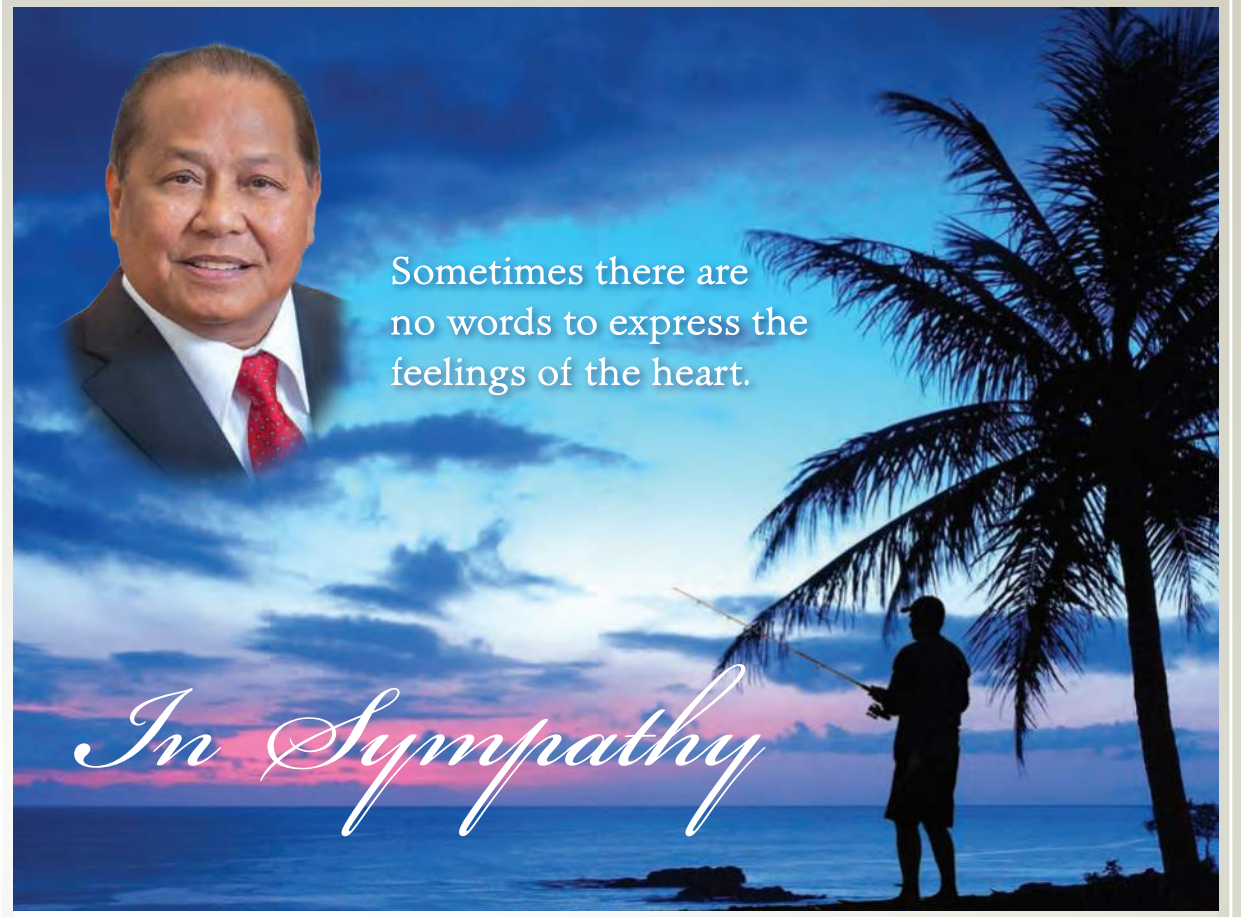
CHCC CEO Esther Muña earlier said they were looking at increasing the salaries of nurses as well as some laboratory staff last year since these are the areas in the hospital that haven't gotten raises for a long time.

The restructuring would give nurses salaries instead of per hour wages. No amount has been set yet but it was mentioned that it would make nurses exempt from the overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Aside from giving direct benefits to nurses, the restructuring is seen as a move that would help the hospital retain much needed staff, be more competitive in hiring personnel, and address overtime pay.

The hospital has been experiencing losses in staffing due to competition in the region. Muña noted that the rate of resignation is faster than the rate of hiring.

"This is something that is necessary, especially because there's so much competition in this region to basically get the best people to come and work and provide healthcare services," Muña earlier said.



From the management and staff of
Tan Holdings
www.tanholdings.com
Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Saipan Tribune management and staff mourn the loss
not only of the CNMI's eighth governor but also a dear and
much-loved member of the Tan Holdings family.
Before he became governor, Eloy S. Inos was a
beloved executive of Tan Holdings. Those in Saipan Tribune
remember him as a very professional and competent,
yet approachable and humble executive.
Rest in peace, sir!
Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

What penalties do employers face?

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The delay in processing the work permits of nearly 3,000 contract workers by the start of this New Year has resulted in restaurants and stores closing shop or shortening business hours, and left many residents cut off from the expected work they need to sustain their livelihood and households. However, workers who may feel the need to continue working—and employers that allow this—may want to err on the side of caution, and law, and refrain from doing so, as employers who are found in violation can face fines up to $16,000 and debarment from other government benefits, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

When pressed last week to detail the penalties employees and their employers face if caught by authorities working without a renewed permit, Virginia Kice, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement director and spokesperson of the Western Regional Communications office, referred *Saipan Tribune* to ICE sanction guidelines that she said contained "considerable information regarding the potential penalties for employers who knowingly hire unauthorized workers."

ICE agents or auditors conduct an inspection of employee forms that employees are required to maintain for federal officials' review. The Immigration Reform and Control Act in 1986 required employers to verify the identity and employment eligibility of their employees and created criminal and civil sanctions for employment related violation, using these " Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 (Form I-9)" as the means of documenting this verification.

Employers maintain for inspections these original forms for all current employees. For past employees, they must retain the forms for a period of at least three years from the date of hire or for one year after the employee is no longer employed, or whichever is longer.

Employers found to have knowingly hired or continue to employ unauthorized workers "will be required to cease the unlawful activity, may be fined, and in certain situations may be criminally prosecuted."

On top of that, an employer found to have knowingly hired or continued to employ unauthorized workers may be subject to debarment by ICE—the employer will be prevented from participating in future federal contracts and from receiving other government benefits.

If ICE were to discover technical or procedural violations, employers are given 10 business days to make corrections, and an employer may receive a monetary fine for all substantive and uncorrected technical violations.

Monetary penalties for knowingly hiring and continuing to employ violations range from $375 to $16,000 per violation, with repeat offenders receiving penalties at the higher end. Penalties for substantive violations—which includes failing to produce a Form I-9—range from $110 to $1,100 per violation. In determining penalty amounts, ICE considers five factors: the size of the business, good faith effort to comply, seriousness of violation, whether the violation involved unauthorized workers, and history of previous violations.

More information can found at these sites:

- https://www.ice.gov/fact-sheets/i9-inspection
- https://www.ice.gov/fact-sheets/worksite

PSS caterer also affected by CW delays

One of the six companies that provide catering services for the CNMI Public School System's Food and Nutrition Services program is reportedly short-staffed due to delays in the Commonwealth-only worker permit renewals.

Barney's Pizza & Catering, which has done business on Saipan for several years, helps serve approximately 14,000 meals each day to almost 11,000 public school and Head Start students, including some private schools and day care programs.

Saipan Tribune learned that because of the company's shortage of cooks and servers, another catering company, also contracted by PSS, was asked internally to help provide meals to mitigate the setback.

Saipan Tribune attempted several times in the last week to contact Barney's Pizza on their status, but has been unable to obtain more information.

According to Food and Nutrition Services director Dale Roberts, Barney's Pizza has shut down their main office and has essential staff focusing their efforts on ensuring that student meals are ready.

He stated that no shortage of meals has been reported since the start of the delays on Dec. 31. ***(Daisy Demapan)***

Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature
P.O. Box 500586, Saipan, MP 96950

JOINT MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES

On behalf of the Nineteenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, we wish to convey our deepest sympathy to the family of the late Honorable Governor Eulogio (Eloy) Songao Inos upon the untimely death of our beloved Governor.

During Honorable Governor Eloy Songao Inos's more than thirty years of public and private sector service, he distinguished himself to everyone around him with his pleasant, enthusiastic manner and professionalism. He was a true statesman and brilliant leader of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and we can be justly proud of his notable contributions. The presiding officers, members, and staff of the Commonwealth Legislature remember him with respect and admiration and he will be missed by us all.

Once again, we extend our condolences to the family of the late Honorable Governor Eloy Songao Inos. We hope that time and memories will help lessen the burden of your sorrow, and that you may draw some measure comfort knowing that we all share in your loss.

Francisco M. Borja
Senate President

Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero
Speaker of the House

isla
Realty Management
a locally owned company

A Real Estate Company that Represent and
Understand Your Land Value

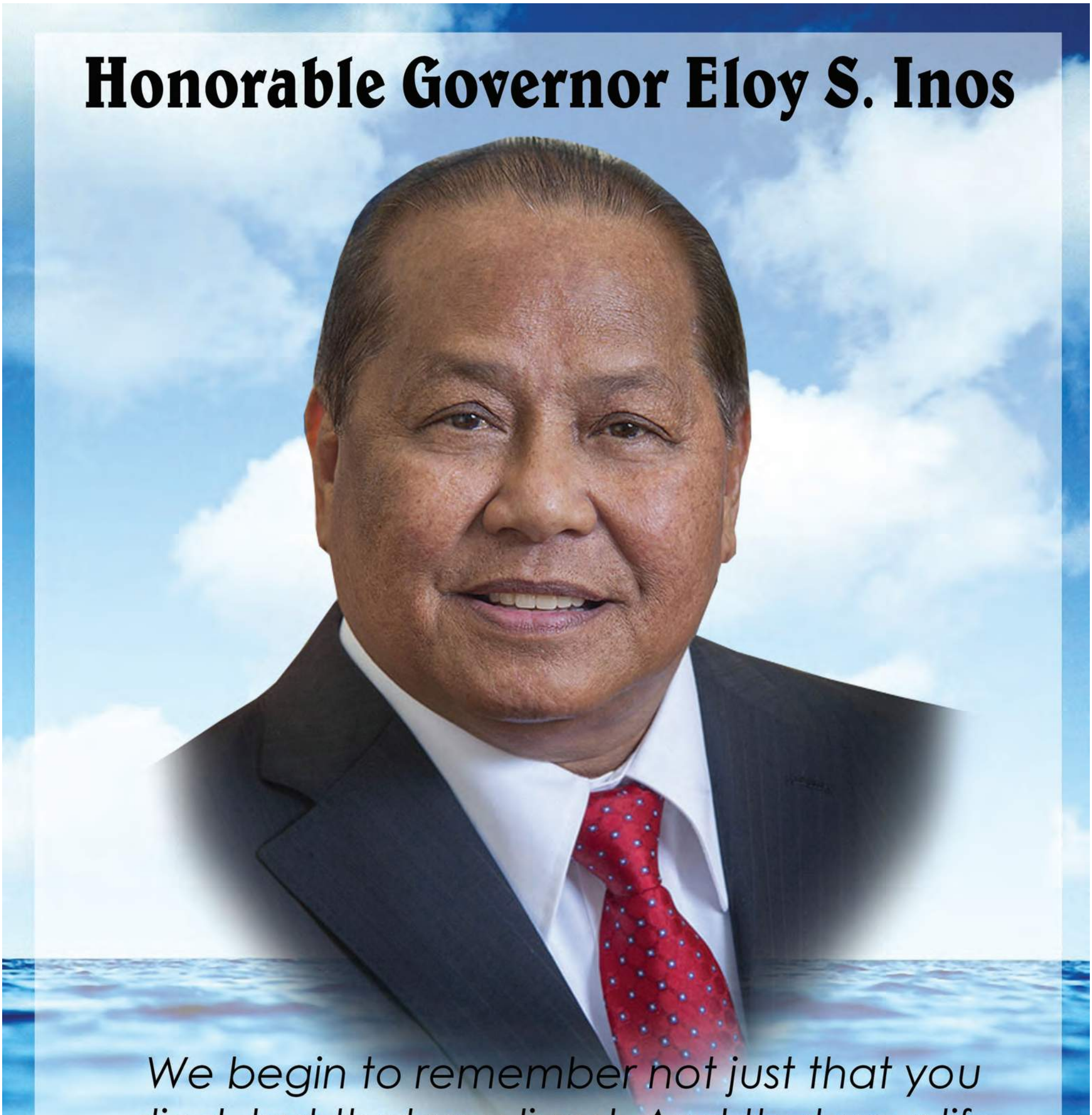
**Looking for properties to purchase or lease.
Local Investors.**

• Beach front properties • View properties
• Level open space properties • Downtown Garapan
• Hillside properties

**ISLA REALTY MANAGEMENT
CONTACT & LOCATION:**
Herman's Modern Bakery Office
Building 2nd Floor Unit 5 Tun Herman Pan Road
Contact: 670-483-1726 or
Email: islarealtysaipan@gmail.com

Following Information/Documents Required
Property Map/As Built Map/ Total Land Area
If available for existing building showing
exact location & building details
Owner Title Information
Owner Asking Price

Honorable Governor Eloy S. Inos



We begin to remember not just that you died, but that you lived. And that your life gave us memories too beautiful to forget.

-Author Unkwown

With deepest sympathy,

BRIDGE CAPITAL, LLC

PSS commissioner's motion to dismiss traffic case denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has denied Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan's motion to dismiss the traffic case filed against her.

Camacho ordered Sablan and the Office of the Attorney General to appear at a status conference on Feb. 25, 2016, at 1:30pm.

In an order on Friday, Camacho ruled that the term "government vehicle" is not unconstitutionally vague. He said a government vehicle is a vehicle owned or leased by the CNMI government.

Proving whether the vehicle in question is a government vehicle is "substantially founded upon and intertwined with evidence concerning the alleged offense," and thus must be reserved for the ultimate finder of fact at trial, Camacho said.

At trial, Camacho said, the government will present evidence, if any, as to whether Sablan drove a government vehicle in violation of the Commonwealth Code.

Sablan

Last Jan. 15, 2015, Sablan was cited with three counts of violating the government vehicle provisions of the Commonwealth Code: driving a government vehicle that does not bear a government license plate; driving an unmarked government vehicle; and operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows.

Sablan pleaded not guilty of the charges.

The vehicle in question is a white four-door 2011 Honda Accord sedan that is registered to "Joeten Motor Lease Dept." and is leased to the Public School System.

In Sablan's motion to dismiss the case, attorney Brien Sers Nicholas argued that the traffic law alleged to have been violated "is vague, constitutionally vague, and unclear."

"It is not possible to have a leased vehicle being claimed is a private but owned by the government. That's how the law is played," Nicholas said.

He said in order for that law to be enforced it has to be a government vehicle and that leased vehicles don't qualify.

Camacho conducted an evidentiary hearing last Aug. 27.

Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen, counsel for the government, said the argument in this case is that the Vehicle Act as prescribed in 1 CMC 7406 is constitutional and that it should be abided by all government officials.

Cohen argued that under the statute, a government vehicle is defined as "vehicle owned or leased by the Commonwealth government or any of its branches or political subdivisions, including autonomous agencies, government corporations, boards, and commissions."

Cohen said no matter what the lease agreement says, a person cannot circumvent the law and that the contract does not relieve a person from complying with the law.

The prosecution alleged that the lease of this car began Jan. 1, 2014 and Sablan was stopped by Police Sgt. Anthony Macaranas on Jan. 15, 2015, so the government is legally the owner of the vehicle.

In denying Sablan's motion, Camacho said a vehicle's owner, under the Vehicle Code, includes the Commonwealth government in situations where the government leases a vehicle for more than 12 months.

Camacho said when a vehicle is titled to the Commonwealth or is being leased by the Commonwealth, then the Commonwealth Code requires that the vehicle be in compliance with 1 CMC Section 7406 by virtue of the government's lease or ownership of the vehicle.

LibDay committees to plan early for 2016

Committees of the Liberation Day festivities are being called for an early meeting by the Saipan Mayor's Office.

According to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang they will hold a meeting on Jan. 14.

"That's how early we're going to start, unlike last year," Apatang said, "We called Skywalker to set up a meeting. We will meet with Skywalker and the rest of the group."

Apatang said they will discuss during the meeting if the committees want to reorganize.

"We will call those committees back and see if they want to reorganize or not. We're going to check with the chairman if he wants to continue," Apatang said.

Last year's Liberation committee chairman was Chris Leon Guerrero.

One of the major talking points is if they will again do a monthlong celebration.

They will also look into bringing in carnival rides—a part of the plan during last year's festivities but wasn't able to push through because of late planning.

"Last year we were pushing for the rides but it was kind of late," Apatang said. "I'm sure this year if we start early, we can see a lot of changes with this year's Liberation festivities."

He added that they don't want to have issues again regards to the operation of the Thursday Market at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Apatang said they will also start early with the solicitations and fundraising for the floats and other activities.

Special assistant Henry Hofschneider added that any interested members of the public can also attend the meeting this week. ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

CUC reviewing results from Leidos

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is now in the process of reviewing the plans submitted by the consultant it hired to analyze bids for an integrated resource management plan.

According to acting CUC executive director Gary Camacho, Leidos Engineering LLC made a presentation to the board at their meeting last month.

"They've submitted results from their model and that's currently being reviewed by CUC," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune*. "We'll be communicating with the committees and we've got the electrical engineering reviewing that package and see what the recommendations are."

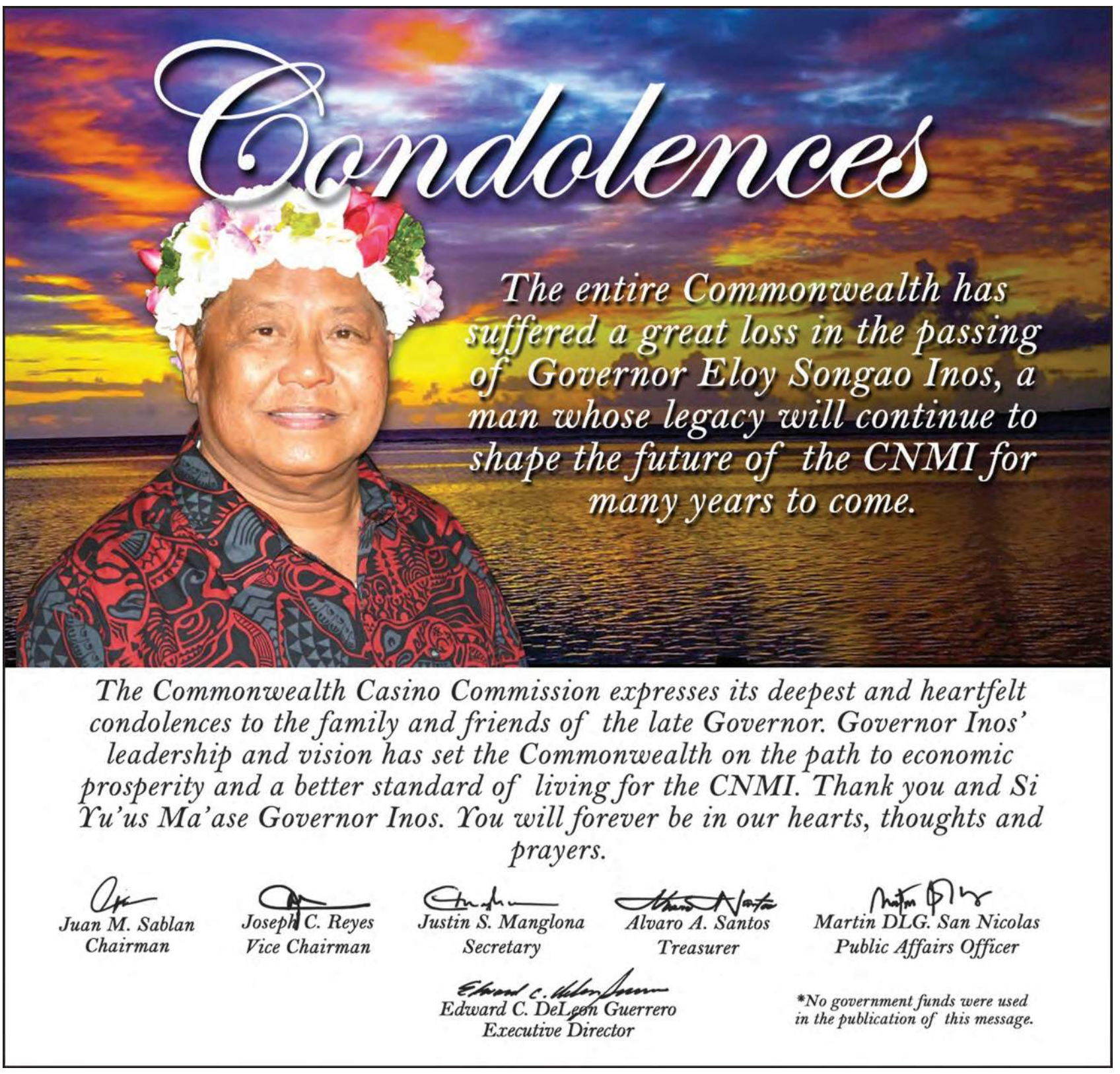
Camacho said the utilities corporation will then decide what is best.

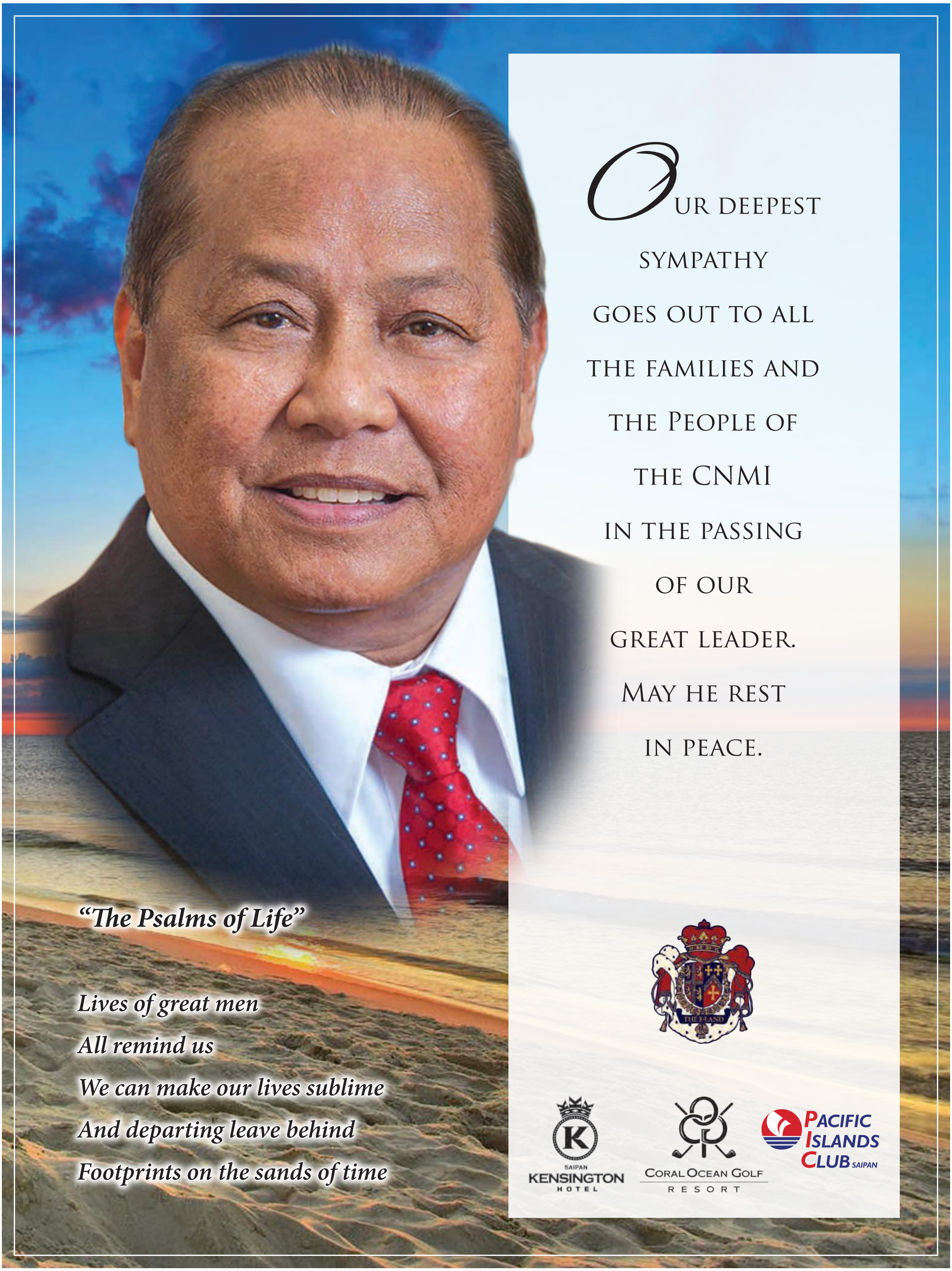
"CUC will review and make a determination on what's best for CUC and its consumers and determine whether to move forward with the selection," he said.

Without giving specific details, Camacho said the report from Leidos "consists of variety of different types of generation to include renewables."

"It's a number of co-generation possibilities," he said.

In August, *Saipan Tribune* reported that Leidos was down to five bids: "Renewable 1" which offers a range of solar generation, both with and without storage, with options for site control at specific feeders; "Renewable 2" which provides simple solar generation with 10-megawatt max capacity; "Thermal 1" which has a project that involves diesel engines burning heavy fuel oil; "Thermal 2" which has plans for diesel engines burning light fuel at 30 megawatt max capacity; and "Thermal 3" which was described by Leidos as a project ranging from "extending CUC's existing assets to new diesel engines burning light fuel." ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***


Condolences
The entire Commonwealth has suffered a great loss in the passing of Governor Eloy Songao Inos, a man whose legacy will continue to shape the future of the CNMI for many years to come.
The Commonwealth Casino Commission expresses its deepest and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the late Governor. Governor Inos' leadership and vision has set the Commonwealth on the path to economic prosperity and a better standard of living for the CNMI. Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase Governor Inos. You will forever be in our hearts, thoughts and prayers.
Juan M. Sablan
Chairman
Joseph C. Reyes
Vice Chairman
Justin S. Manglona
Secretary
Alvaro A. Santos
Treasurer
Martin DLG. San Nicolas
Public Affairs Officer
Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero
Executive Director
*No government funds were used in the publication of this message.



Our deepest sympathy goes out to all the families and the People of the CNMI in the passing of our great leader.

May he rest in peace.

"The Psalms of Life"

Lives of great men
All remind us
We can make our lives sublime
And departing leave behind
Footprints on the sands of time

SAIPAN KENSINGTON HOTEL
CORAL OCEAN GOLF RESORT
PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

Opinion

Hafa Adai
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVI, Issue No. 7

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Eloy Songao Inos

Accolades pour in today as the funeral of a sitting governor transforms an island into a rainfall of tears. The tears are for real; they are also obligatory in the rite-and-ritual laden soil of the Marianas.

Dignitaries from around and abroad will attend the funeral to offer their respect and honor one whose style of leadership was openly without question, much discussed and analyzed in the press. Unanimously selected to be lieutenant governor by the Legislature after serving as Secretary of Finance, and upon the resignation of then-lieutenant governor Timothy Villagomez from office, Eloy continued his role in public governance that began with his work in the Trust Territory administration. (Funeral details are in the news account on this paper.)

He was a great friend to many, warm to his immediate and extended family, dedicated as a public servant, and admired as a tireless leader working far beyond his immediate interests. Brother-in-law to the beloved Education Commissioner Rita Inos, he too showed a lifestyle as a «person for others» par excellence.

But we focus on the man, his life and the completion of it unto death.

At 66, he is a decade short of the average male life expectancy in the United States but ahead of the diabetes-inflicted population of Micronesia. He was definitely a local Marianas boy. Schooled at Mt. Carmel High School on Saipan, he earned his bachelor›s degree in accounting *cum laude* at the University of Guam while also taking courses in business administration. The young soon-to-be politician and finance wizard knew Marianas well and evidently applied his learned finance talents into many tasks and functions.

Eloy's personal life cannot be separated from his life of service. He also served as a VP for Tan Holdings, and not only for joining the family company that we honor his memory with this reflection, he was on his own a virtue worth emulating, hence of great value to the CNMI that he had faithfully and effectively served.

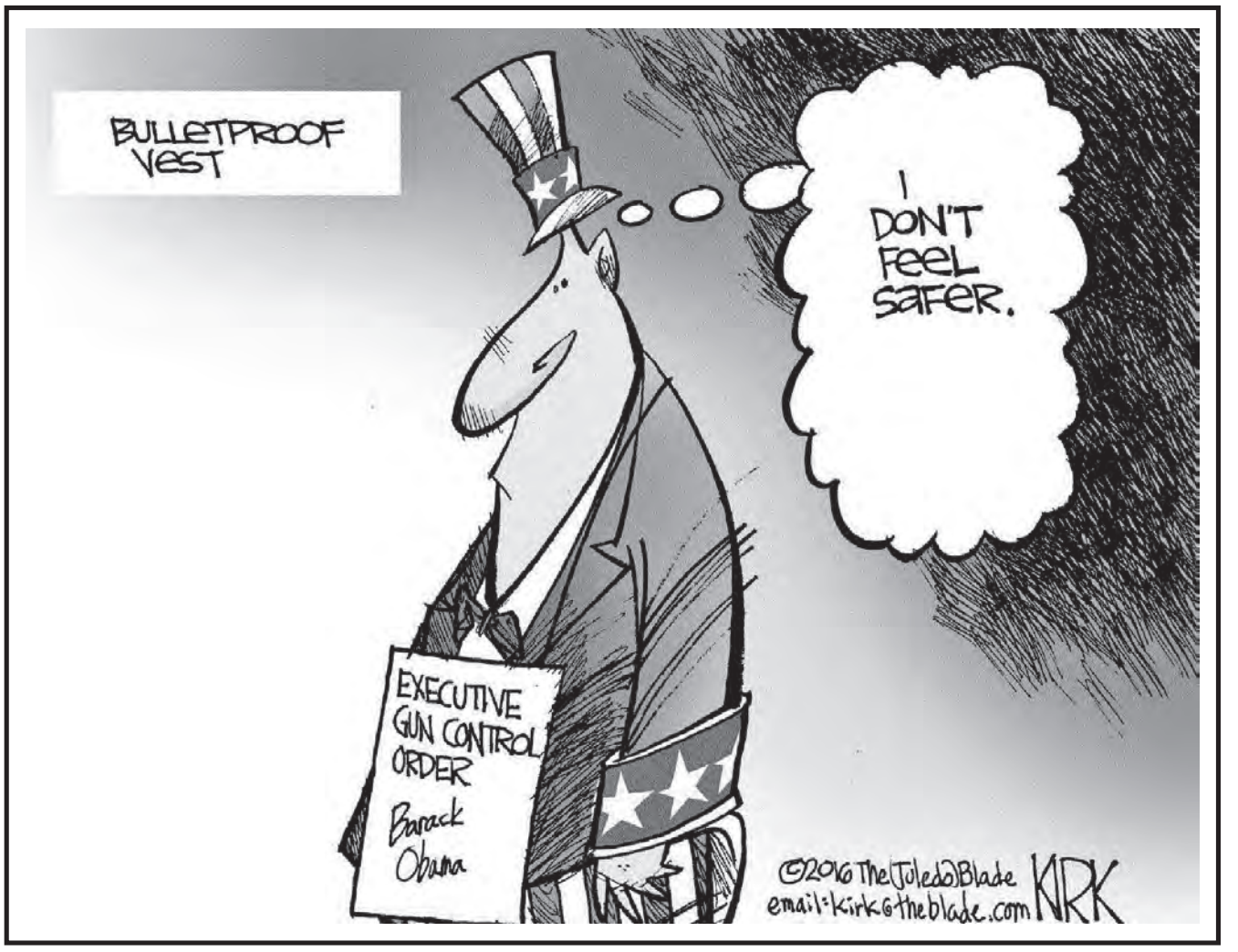
We ask our reading audience for a moment of silence, not just in memory of Eloy but on the mirror reflection it might elicit on the lives to those who reflect. Longevity is a preoccupation of Europe and though Eloy was of age, there will be those who think he went too soon. Our role in place is a quality of oriental living, and Eloy expended his widely, and extremely well, hook, line and sinker. There is no doubt that he was a most likeable fellow.

We are sure he has his detractors, and he would not be Eloy if he did not stimulate diversity of thought processes and evoked multiple feelings from others.

For now, in the revered metaphor of this occasion, he is being laid to rest. Thus, we stand in revered and solemn attention for the being that he was, wart, woof, and wool. We thank him for being a comrade in the journey called life.

Si yuus maasi!

© 2016 *Saipan Tribune*



It's State of the Union time

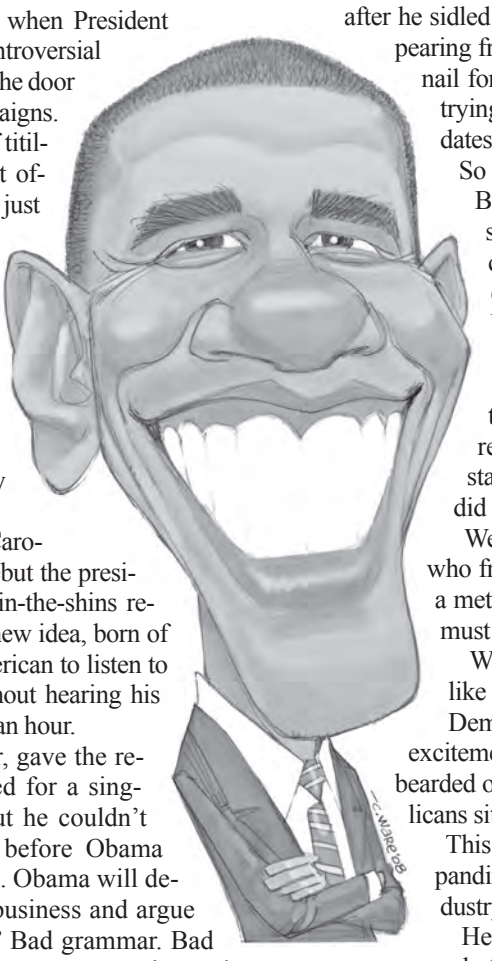
By ANN MCFEATTERS
Tribune News Service

Ann McFeatters is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service*. Readers may send her email at amcfeatters@nationalpress.com.*

WASHINGTON—Resign yourselves. It's time for POTUS to give the SOTU address. I know. I know. It seems as though it just happened yesterday. But it has been a year.

This is the constitutionally mandated occasion when the president assesses the condition of the nation for us.

It is sort of like the Oscars: You feel guilty because you don't really care (you haven't watched most, if any, of the movies); you know it is a big deal (but it is SO LONG); you know exactly what the formula is; you feel as though you must watch because something might happen. (Once, Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito actually mouthed "not true" when President Barack Obama criticized the court's controversial campaign finance decision that opened the door to tons more money in political campaigns. You just don't want to miss that kind of titillation.) Obama will be making his last official SOTU speech Tuesday and you just know he is going to proclaim, "My fellow Americans. The state of the union is strong." What else can he say? "Things are not great; Donald Trump is a menace; Hillary Clinton will probably hang my portrait in the basement; I have no idea how I am going to get through the next 12 months; I have decided to spend the rest of my presidency in Hawaii." No way.



The real news, so far, is that South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley was picked to rebut the president. The rebuttal (aka the GOP kick-in-the-shins response to the president) is a relatively new idea, born of cable TV and the idea that it is un-American to listen to the president of the United States without hearing his political opponents deride him for half an hour.

Bobby Jindal, Louisiana's governor, gave the rebuttal in 2009 but was widely panned for a sing-song style and sophomoric ideas. But he couldn't let it go. Last year Jindal tweeted before Obama spoke, writing, "I'll save you 45 mins. Obama will decry Republicans, beat up on private business and argue for more 'free stuff.' Your welcome." Bad grammar. Bad idea. Jindal ran for president in 2015 but got no traction and pulled out: "Not my time."

Marco Rubio's rebuttal was late-night-comics' fodder for ages after he sidled left to take a drink of water, all but disappearing from the TV screen. He is battling tooth and nail for third place in Iowa and New Hampshire, trying to tamp down ridicule from other candidates about his high-heeled boots.

So there's a curse in responding to a SOTU. But Nikki Haley! In case you haven't heard, she is going to be the GOP vice presidential candidate. Whoever the GOP presidential candidate is. Cable news has decreed it because, one, she's an attractive female; and two, she impressed everyone with her handling of the aftermath of the Charleston church shootings and her decision to remove the Confederate battle flag from statehouse grounds. Honest! A Republican did that!

We have to watch Obama's address to see who from the Cabinet is not there. That's in case a meteor falls on the Capitol; the administration must have someone to carry on.

We'll see Vice President Joe Biden applaud like crazy at Obama's finely crafted oratory and Democrats pop up like robots to signal their excitement, while House Speaker Paul Ryan, the bearded one, makes disdainful grimaces and Republicans sit on their hands.

This year Obama will tout job growth, the expanding economy, shrinking deficits, bustling industry and booming energy production. Again.

He will plead, again, for effective gun control, combatting climate change, restoring the middle class, closing Guantanamo, destroying the Islamic State, bring-

See STATE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

I'm no fan of Obama, but those tears were real

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS
Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. *Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.*

When the massacre at Sandy Hook occurred three years ago, I went through my own personal sea change. I woke up on the morning of Dec. 14, 2012, having no specific opinion about guns and the Second Amendment and background checks and mental health and all of the layers of a problem that seemed so important to other people. To me, the right to bear arms was fundamental, but hardly the most fundamental of the individual rights incident to our status as citizens. I didn't have a problem with limitations on gun possession and couldn't understand the almost-rabid reaction some Second Amendment purists had to any suggestion of gun control. On the other hand, I thought the type of person who blamed all of the deaths on easy access to firearms was naive and living in some progressive utopia where guns were animate, evil objects that shot themselves and we could end the killing if we just confiscated the weapons.

And then I spent a day, one and a half weeks before Christmas, transfixed before the television screen as the most horrific story I had ever seen unfolded before my disbelieving eyes: Twenty first-graders and six of their teachers were murdered in cold blood by a mentally deranged teenager with a military style arsenal.

As I watched, the horror increased like a low flame that first flickers and then eats oxygen to become larger, hotter and then finally an inferno. That inferno began to burn in my head, as I kept repeating to myself "First-graders murdered, their teachers massacred trying to protect them." To this day, I cannot write the words without breaking down in tears.

And then the parade of faces, the sweet gap-toothed smiles and the wide eyes and the off-center parts and the jagged bangs, the freckles and the pug noses and the heartbreaking pain of promises, promises of a future, shattered. I saw my nephew in those faces, a boy who carries my hopes and expectations and immense love with him on his shoulders (though he doesn't know it) into his own classroom every morning. Today he is 7, the age of those little martyred ones. Then, he was 4 and all I wanted to do was run home and hold him tightly and block out the idea that children could be shot point blank and ripped from the world they'd only begun to explore.

Unlike Sept. 11, which filled me with pain and anger and a sense of insecurity that remains to this day in the deepest part of my consciousness but did not make me question the existence of God, Sandy Hook made me wonder what kind of deity allows an evil boy with a diseased mind to shatter 26 lives and send the horrific ripples out among parents and siblings and spouses and children and friends. Perhaps it was simply that 9/11 was so big and the losses so vast and the devastation so universal that I didn't feel it personally. I remember trying to reach my brother Michael, who in those days lived and worked in lower Manhattan. When I finally made contact, I breathed with relief that seemed to empty my lungs. But the catastrophe of 9/11 was too big for me to fully take in, like Pearl Harbor.

Sandy Hook, for some reason, was much more personal. To this day I cannot shake the photos of those babies from my mind, class photos that captured these tiny miracles at the moment of their first blossoming. Is there anything more painful than looking at the photo of a smiling child, days and weeks and years after that child's sudden death? I can't think of anything, and I have never lost a son or daughter. But you don't need to have experienced that greatest tragedy in life to understand what it takes from you, sucks out of your marrow.

And that is why I understand why President Barack Obama wept this week when he talked about the victims of Sandy Hook. It is why I believe those tears were real and not conjured for a photo-op to advance a lame duck political agenda. It is why I know that this most unemotional of men broke down, even briefly, in front of the cameras. And it is why I was angered by the reaction from friends and fellow travelers on the conservative side who ridiculed him, or challenged the authenticity of his feelings, or piled on with analogies of other deaths Obama had failed to sufficiently mourn.

I read social media posts telling me that I was a naive fool to think that a man who presumably had no concern for the family of border agent Brian Terry could genuinely care about dead 7-year-olds. I was told that a man who allowed one of his ambassadors to be massacred in cold blood by jihadists and did not cry over his shed blood, could not empathize with the parents of Sandy Hook. I was warned not to fall for the dog and pony show served up for the anti-gun crowd.

Finally, I was bombarded with legal treatises as to why the president's executive orders addressing gun control were either (1) unconstitutional (2) unworkable or (3) unnecessary because they duplicated much of what was already written into existing legislation.

I happen to agree that the executive orders will probably not hold up if challenged in a court of law, primarily because they invade the jurisdiction of Congress. But then again, I was wrong about the viability of his immigration initiatives last year, which are tied up in litigation, so I'm not an expert on the likely outcome for these new executive orders.

But that's not what bothers me the most. People can take issue with the legality of an act. If they are running for office, like Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz (who has a pen with an eraser), they can make statements about repealing those initiatives and make the base happy.

That's politics, and that's fine.

What bothers me the most are the people who smugly come out and say that Obama didn't really mean it when he was crying about those dead babies, or that he should have cried for others too.

This is not a zero sum game. And frankly, there is something special—horrifically so—about murdered 7-year-olds or Amish school girls lined up and massacred by a deranged delivery man. Anyone who doesn't cry about them is not human. Barack Obama, for whatever flaws he possesses (and I think he is greatly flawed,) is human. I believe his tears were genuine.

And suggesting otherwise says more about his critics than it does about him.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A continuing crisis in succession

The electorates of the CNMI should focus on what the first sentence of Section 7 of Article lll of the CNMI Constitution implies. Several days ago, I suggested that the line of succession triggered by resignation, removal, or death of the governor addresses only that.

Removal of the sitting lieutenant governor is anyone's guess because nothing in Section 7 stipulates about the forfeiture of office by the sitting lieutenant governor. It seems logical that the sitting lieutenant governor could be the subject of forfeiture of office under the same standards of forfeiture of office by the governor. There, a situation ensues in that the sitting governor is forced to accept a person in the order of the line of succession to fill the vacant lieutenant governor office or selection by the sitting governor of a person outside the line of succession. In case of forfeiture of office of the sitting lieutenant governor, the automatic elevation or appointment against the will of the sitting President of the Senate could not serve as the basis of legitimizing the temporary or permanent take over of the lieutenant governor office. The person who is elected to the Senate and holding the office of the President of the Senate must be vetted once again to ensure the qualification and legitimacy of assumption of office of the lieutenant governor office. If that process clears and meets the test of qualification, that would answer the first question. As no firm information has been offered or explained, whether the vetting actually happened or who conducted the vetting and recorded the investigation, it is hard to say. But, action of the process must indicate in records or documentation in someone's office or computer disk. The next step is for the person to resign his or her position as senator of the CNMI Legislature.

We are also reminded that the governor and lieutenant governor came as a paired candidate for and by election. It seems by logical inductive reasoning that the framers of the CNMI Constitution foresaw how the line of succession turning chaotic and unreasonably in disarray when scenarios so perplexing as to render language stated in this section of the Constitution contradicting the present case or situation. A zipper clause was devised to make intelligent and purposeful resolves in due time when factual and actual cases appearing and presenting themselves as the CNMI government striving for maturity in its going concern.

The pairing of the governor and lieutenant governor is part of the consistency and continuity of government, envisioned by the framers of the Constitution. Viewed from the perspective that the framers of the Constitution purposefully disregarded mentioning the lieutenant governor in case of removal, resignation or death cause of office vacancy for lieutenant governor and governor has to do with their pairing.

The sitting lieutenant governor is removable by voluntary, involuntary, or death cause. But interesting and possibly equally true is when the sitting governor fires the sitting lieutenant governor, for good reason or no reason. This is a point because, speculative or affirmative, the framers must have clear and valid justifications why the lieutenant governor was not implicated in forfeiture of office cause of action as it was only the reference to the governor that entered the written language of Section 7 of Article lll of the CNMI Constitution. The term of office for a paired governor and lieutenant governor extends until the next election and take over of offices by a paired persons at the time. Hence, the last sentence of Section 7 of Article lll of the CNMI Constitution draws logical meaning.

The stability of electing a governor is an important concept envisioned by the framers of the CNMI Constitution. Perhaps this was an idea of preserving the dominant party or party electing the governor and lieutenant governor. However, what the framers of the Constitution for good reason favored electing their governor, and succession of office for the lieutenant governor could be resolved by either election or appointment by the sitting governor. It is for this reason that whoever is elected to fill the governor office vacancy, the lieutenant governor whoever the person would have to deal with the elected governor concerning status of continuation of office. Here is the situation that a sitting lieutenant governor would have to consider resigning from office and pursue taking over the governorship by election of office. And this is the subject of the last sentence of Section 7 of Article lll of the CNMI Constitution.

What is true and possible would be applicable because of the absence of sanctioned rules of engagement as required by the last sentence of Section 7 of Article lll of the CNMI Constitution. It is a sad defining moment of the history of the CNMI government and people that this crisis and damaging breakouts are being ignored by the elected leaders of this government. If there is a blame to all these, it would clearly rests with the Legislature, and the OAG and elected AG. The real and innocent victims of circumstances are the electorates of the CNMI. It is a travesty that would go down in CNMI history as paralysis by obfuscation in government.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

STATE

From Page 10

ing civility to politics, paid sick leave and maternity leave, free community college, improving health care and job training for veterans, trade pacts to sell more U.S. goods abroad, more research and development, an overhauled tax code, stronger diplomacy, a renewed commitment to justice and an end to overt racism, and fixing the broken immigration system. He will ask God to bless this great country we love.

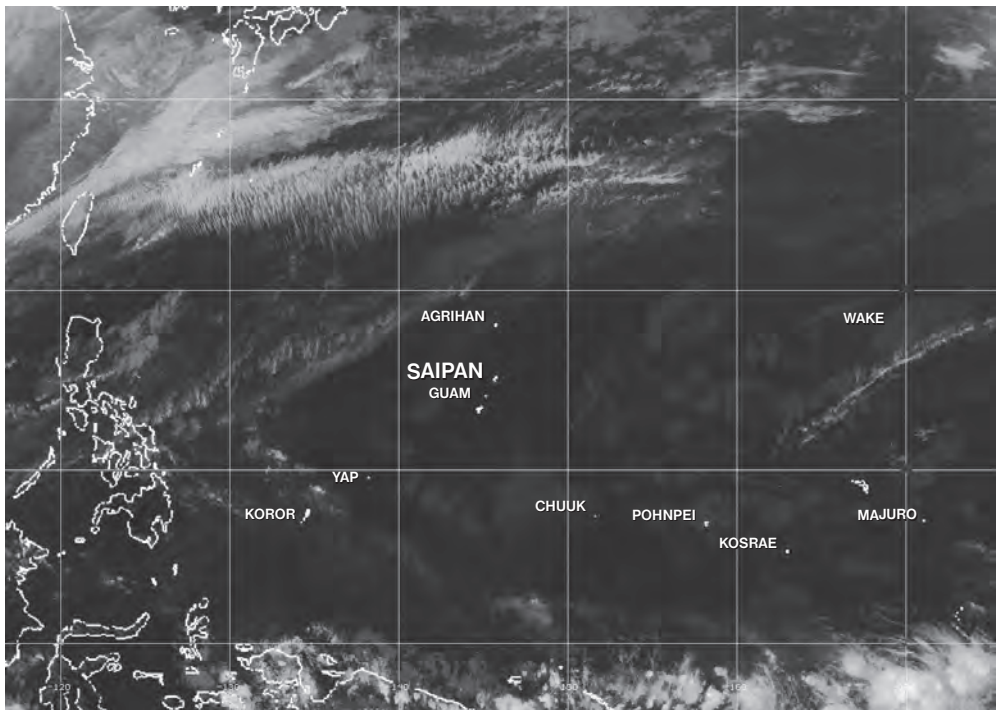
It will be a good, if lengthy, speech. But Obama will step down from the podium as a lame duck, and the endless presidential primary games instantly will begin again.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87º ▼74º	▲86º ▼75º	▲87º ▼74º	▲87º ▼74º	▲87º ▼74º

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 12:43PM, MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwest through 25N157E to 20N141E then continues as a shear line beyond 130E at 15N. Scattered showers are present along and up to 150 miles northwest of the front. Trade wind cloudiness and showers are seen east of the Marianas and between Pohnpei and Wake Island between 7N and 18N from 149E to 174E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼78
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼79

Around the Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲75	▼61
Beijing	Sunny	▲34	▼13
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲65	▼58
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼67
London	Showers	▲44	▼34
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼43
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼73
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼62
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼63
New York	Sunny	▲36	▼27
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲49	▼38
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲47	▼40
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲47	▼24
Rome	Showers	▲57	▼44
Salem	Showers	▲48	▼40
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲57	▼48
Seoul	Sunny	▲33	▼18
Tokyo	Showers	▲44	▼35
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲38	▼26

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.5 Feet
10:00 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
3:42 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:39 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:46 AM	6:04 PM
Wednesday	6:46 AM	6:05 PM
Thursday	6:46 AM	6:05 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:06 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:06 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:15 AM	8:12 PM
Wednesday	9:04 AM	9:10 PM
Thursday	9:52 AM	10:07 PM
Friday	10:39 AM	11:04 PM
Saturday	11:26 AM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 4, 2015

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5072/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN
UA2924/159	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

BSI installs enclosures, says they're 'fully compliant'

»DPH continues to monitor BSI's live training facility

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Best Sunshine International Ltd.'s live training casino inside the T Galleria in Garapan is now in compliance with the Smoke-Free Air Act, with the casino fully enclosed in glass walls.

According to senior vice president for operations Donald Browne, glass enclosures have been installed at the north and south entrances of the casino as well as along the bridge on the second floor that connects the parking area to Hard Rock Café. They also implemented a no smoking policy while the enclosures were being built.

"We're fully compliant with Public Law 16-46," Browne told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said they also continue to use air curtains on the entrances and continue to monitor their compliance.

"We have a very strong filter system," Browne said. "We added venting so that we have more airflow."

He pointed out that they have a positive airflow in the casino from the entrances.

"We actually have positive airflow. When you open the door, it actually brings the air in, instead of pushing it out," he said.

The Bureau of Environmental Health noted during their Dec. 18 inspection that Best Sunshine added slot machines by their Lounge Bar and Noodle Bar but Browne said these areas are considered gaming space.

"They don't have to be enclosed because they're part of the casino. The casino's already enclosed," he said.

Another policy that was implemented was that visitors under the age of 21 are no longer allowed inside the casino even though they will just pass through the facility.

"Everybody's happy. They feel much more secure," he said when asked about the feedback from their neighboring establishments.

Browne said their next step would be to add some scented air inside the casino and they are in the process of ordering the hardware.

"We're adding some scented air so the perception of smoke won't be there. Oftentimes it's the perception of smoke rather than the smoke itself," Browne said. Several Hard Rock employees noted that there is less smoke now since the enclosures were installed.

Continued monitoring

The Division of Public Health Services assured that it would continue to monitor the casino's compliance with the anti-smoking law.

According to BEH environmental health officer John Tagabuel, they monitor the Best Sunshine Live facility every week.

Last Monday, Tagabuel's team visited the facility to try and detect secondhand smoke as well as talk to managers and employees of Hard Rock and T Galleria.

"As long as there's smoking in any public place, if there is smoking, we need to look at the adjacent establishment," Tagabuel told *Saipan Tribune*.

Along with BEH, the Non-Communicable Disease Bureau of DPH is also making visits determine the air quality in surrounding establishments.

"We're doing our best at Public Health because our only concern here is the secondhand smoke for the patrons, the children that go into Hard Rock Café. I mean those people that go into the casino, because they're exempt, there's no problem. It's the people that go shopping, it's the people that go up and eat," NCDB's Tobacco and Diabetes Prevention Program coordinator Velma Del Rosario said.

Using equipment from Guam that detects secondhand smoke, the bureau is able to collect data regarding the components of the air in Hard Rock and DFS.

"It picks up nicotine, all those toxins from the cigarette," Del Rosario said. "It shows what we picked up."

However, they are not able to interpret the data at this time because they need to send the data out to experts.

"I'm just waiting for our project officer. Once we get that procured, we'll send it and then they will read it," Del Rosario said. "Right now what we're doing is just collecting. We will be doing weekly monitoring."

She added that they will be doing visits both during the low and high peak times, especially since there were still reports that during Fridays and Saturdays smoke is still present in surrounding establishments when there are a lot of people inside Best Sunshine Live.

Del Rosario said they will base the findings on whether or not the toxin levels are harmful, based on the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease and Control Prevention.

DPH is advising the public to report to them any complaints about smoking inside any facilities on the island.

"We're not monitoring Best Sunshine alone," Del Rosario said.

"There's a lot of public space that folks take for granted [with regards to smoking policies]," Tagabuel added.

Concerns may be reported to 664-4870/72, 234-QUIK, or emailed to john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
The Best Sunshine Live training facility is now walled off from the shopping area of the T Galleria with glass walls and an air curtain. The same enclosure has also been installed at the casino's south entrance and at the bridge leading to the Hard Rock Café on the second floor.

Rolling chip program at 1.3 pct. rate authorized for BSI casino—regulator

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission has authorized a rolling chip program at the Best Sunshine casino late last month.

The rolling chip program centers on non-negotiable chips, commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero explained in an interview. For play in VIP rooms, the volume of transactions is significantly larger than the mass gaming on the floor, and so the rolling chip program would come in when a transaction opens up between Best Sunshine and the player, with a junket operator—the gaming middleman who bring in these players—getting a percentage of that agreement.

For example, a player starts out with a credit of $500,000. On the first play, the player wins $100,000 in cash chips. That $100,000—if converted to non-negotiable chips—is subjected to whatever commission is in place.

Assuming a player has played the maximum $5 million set by the casino, 1.3 percent of $100,000 goes to the player, regardless if they win or lose.

If a gamer plays all of his $500,000 million and loses, Best Sunshine earns $500,000 but the gamer is eligible for 1.3 percent of the $500,000, because "every time a player rolls they are eligible for that commission."

Referring to Best Sunshine's filings that a total of $1.3 billion chips were rolled last November, Guerrero said that technically, for whomever combination of gamers that played that amount in total were, "there should be 1.3 percent of that total amount of chip rolled, for commission paid out."

The rolling chip program also has what is called the ".1 percent for complimentary comms or credits," Guerrero added. "These are your free rooms, free meals, whatever complimentary" benefits that the casino can offer that is built into the rolling chip program.

If a player's expenses exceed the .1 percent set for free hotel and food, Guererro said, then this will be deducted from the 1.3 percent agreement between player and casino.

The 1.3 percent rate is also where a junket operator would earn his or her money as agreed to by the operator and the player.

"There is a settlement agreement that we monitor," Guerrero added. "We receive copies of all settlement agreements" that basically "talks about what is agreed upon and what is paid out."

Remembering with you a life so important to so many.
Deepest sympathy
From the Management and Staff of
CLUB C
CASINO & ENTERTAINMENT

Business

VW CEO plans to submit emissions fixes to EPA chief

DETROIT (AP)—Volkswagen's new chief executive plans to present remedies for fixing diesel engines that cheat on emissions tests when he meets with the top U.S. environmental regulator this week.

CEO Matthias Mueller said that as of now VW has only given technical data to the Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board. But he hopes to reach agreement with EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Wednesday in Washington when he presents her with solutions. VW requested the meeting.

Mueller's trip comes as the German automaker and U.S. regulators are at an apparent impasse over how to proceed with the expected recall of nearly 600,000 "clean diesel" vehicles sold with secret software designed to make their engines pass federal emissions standards while undergoing laboratory testing. The vehicles then switch off those measures in real-world driving conditions, spewing harmful nitrogen oxide at up to 40 times what is allowed under federal environmental standards.

AP
Volkswagen AG chief executive officer Matthias Müller speaks in Detroit, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016.

The cars include Jetta, Golf and other popular models dating to the 2009 model year. About 11 million cars have similar software worldwide.

McCarthy said last week that the agency hasn't reached any agreement with VW after three months of discussions, and that she's anxious to bring VW into compliance with the Clean Air Act.

But Mueller continued to describe the discussions as productive. "It is my point of view, I tell you we are working together with the EPA and also with the CARB for three months, and from our point of view we did huge progress. And now we will talk to Ms. McCarthy and we'll see how the reaction will be."

He wouldn't talk about what solutions the company will propose, but analysts say they will almost certainly be expensive and involve major modifications to the exhaust systems or the addition of a chemical treatment system to turn nitrogen oxide into harmless nitrogen and oxygen.

Mueller wouldn't say if the company plans to buy back any of the cars.

The U.S. Justice Department, representing EPA, filed a civil lawsuit last week that could potentially expose VW to more than $20 billion in fines under the Clean Air Act. VW could incur additional civil penalties based on facts determined at trial.

A separate criminal investigation is underway, and numerous private class-action lawsuits filed by angry VW owners are pending.

The company also faces investigations by multiple state attorneys general, some of whom have complained that VW isn't turning over documents that have been requested. Mueller said the source of the dispute is variations between German and U.S. laws governing corporate documents. "There is German law in terms of tighter protection, and that is not compatible to the American. And that has to be clarified," he said.

VW first admitted in September that the suspect software was installed in cars with its popular 2.0-liter diesel engines. The company has thus far denied findings by U.S. regulators a smaller number of diesel vehicles with 3.0-liter engines contain similar software.

Mueller apologized again on Monday for the scandal and said the company's most important task in 2016 will be to win back its customers' trust. He has suggested a small number of software developers in Germany are to blame for the suspect computer code.

The company has hired a U.S.-based law firm to conduct an internal investigation. The findings of that review have not yet been made public.

US employers hire at robust pace, defying global trends

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. economy is motoring ahead despite slowing global growth that caused upheavals in financial markets around the world this week.

Employers added a robust 292,000 jobs last month, and the unemployment rate stayed low at 5 percent, the Labor Department said Friday. Job gains in the October-December quarter averaged 284,000, the best three-month increase since last January.

The strong hiring underscores the resilience of the United States at a time of slow global growth and financial turmoil. Healthy consumer spending, modest gains in home construction and an uptick in government spending should offset drags from overseas and bolster growth this year, economists said.

The report "immediately puts to rest a lot of the worries that the U.S. economy will come undone due to the intensifying global headwinds coming out of China and the Middle East," said Mark Vitner, an economist at Wells Fargo.

For all of 2015, employers added 2.65 million jobs, a monthly average of 221,000. That made 2015 the second-best year for hiring since 1999, after 2014.

The unemployment rate has held at 5 percent for the past three months, despite the solid job gains, because nearly 1 million more Americans have begun seeking work since September.

Wages were the one weak spot in December, as average pay slipped a penny to $25.24 an hour. Hourly pay has risen 2.5 percent in the past year, only the second time since the Great Recession ended in mid-2009 that it's reached that level. Yet pay growth remains below the roughly 3.5 percent pace typical of a healthy economy.

The U.S. "is uniquely positioned among the major industrial economies to withstand a global slowdown," Vitner said.

Global trade accounts for just about 30 percent of U.S. economic activity, one of the lowest such percentages in the world, according to Patrick O'Keefe, director of economic research at the consulting firm CohnReznick.

Suspicious powder delays flights at Swedish airport

HELSINKI (AP)—Skavsta Airport in southeastern Sweden was partially evacuated Sunday and flights were delayed when security staff found what they believed was suspicious powder after a passenger had checked in luggage, airport officials said.

The check-in area and baggage hall of the departure terminal were evacuated, delaying four flights by several hours while police and a bomb squad investigated the bag, airport spokesman Joakim Lindholm said. "It appears they found nothing," he said, after the airport was declared safe.

Lindholm said police had ended their investigation after studying the bag and questioning its owner—"an elderly lady who had fully cooperated with them."

Police couldn't immediately be contacted for confirmation.

Arriving flights weren't affected by the incident but some delays on Sunday's six remaining European departures were expected, Lindholm said.

Last year, the airport which serves European destinations, served around 1.7 million passengers. It is located 100 kilometers (60 miles) southwest of the capital, Stockholm.

Chatty employee could teach whole team a lesson

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.youroffi-cecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

Q: One of my employees doesn't know when to stop talking. When chatting with co-workers, "Carly" goes on at great length without any consideration for their time. Her colleagues say they feel trapped in these conversations, but don't know how to leave without being rude. As a result, they now avoid interacting with Carly at all. Mentioning these complaints will upset Carly, so how do I address this?

A: Actually, your entire team could benefit from some coaching on this topic. While Carly needs to curb her excessive chatter, her long-suffering colleagues must become more assertive. Instead of shunning their loquacious co-worker, which will only hurt feelings and damage relationships, they should learn how to appropriately end conversations.

During a staff meeting, introduce this issue without mentioning any complaints. Indicate that while you value friendly relationships, you believe time spent on personal chatting has gotten out of hand. Suggest that employees can politely excuse themselves from protracted discussions by explaining that they must get back to work.

Having publicly broached the subject, you are now ready for a private talk with Carly. For example, "Carly, as I mentioned yesterday, I'm concerned about the problem of excessive socializing. While your outgoing personality is a real strength, I need you to work on keeping conversations short. Let's discuss some strategies that might help."

Going forward, you should assess Carly's progress and provide additional coaching as needed. If colleagues still complain about her verbosity, remind them that "I've enjoyed chatting, but I have work to do" is always an acceptable exit line.

Q: Eighteen months ago, my boss, "Jerry," hired his friend "Mike" for a job that was considered temporary. Mike was only supposed to help out while Jerry looked for a permanent replacement. However, Jerry hasn't interviewed any candidates, and Mike is still here.

Mike doesn't receive any benefits, vacation or sick leave. He has to put in long hours just to keep up with the workload. On top of that, Jerry delegates projects to him, then takes the credit in departmental meetings. Mike often says he hopes to find another job within the company.

In my opinion, Mike's continued presence is damaging to our work environment. I have expressed my view of these office dynamics to both Jerry and human resources, but nothing has been done to rectify the situation. What do you think about this?

A: After reading your email three times, I still can't figure out what's bothering you. Mike works long hours with no benefits, but that's his problem, not yours. Jerry takes credit for Mike's accomplishments, but that's not your problem either.

You mention no issues with Mike's character or abilities, yet you claim he is "damaging to the work environment." However, his willingness to work long hours and his desire to remain with the company seem to reflect positive intentions.

Perhaps you simply resent the fact that Jerry and Mike are friends. But unless you can cite specific business problems caused by this relationship, you should probably stop "expressing your view of office dynamics." Otherwise, you may suddenly discover that your own job has become temporary.

Nation

4 teens in custody in alleged group rape at NYC playground

NEW YORK (AP)—Four teenagers were taken into police custody in connection with an alleged group rape of an 18-year-old woman at a Brooklyn playground, an incident that the mayor called a "horrific attack."

Police said Sunday two teenagers surrendered and two were apprehended. Charges were pending against a 14-year-old, 17-year-old and two 15-year-olds. A fifth suspect is still being sought.

Authorities said the woman was accosted just after 9 p.m. Thursday as she and her father walked inside Osborn Playground in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn.

Police said there were five suspects, and one pointed a gun at the father and told him to leave. Each man raped the woman, police said. The father returned with two police officers, but the attackers fled.

The woman was treated at Kings County Hospital and released.

"I am disgusted and deeply saddened by the horrific attack," New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said in a statement released Sunday.

He added, "Every New Yorker in every neighborhood deserves to feel safe and protected, and we will not stop until the perpetrators of this disturbing attack are held accountable for their actions."

Elected officials, residents and activists spoke out against the alleged assault on Sunday, offering a reward for information leading to an arrest.

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams released a statement saying he was "sickened" by reports of the attack and called on the New York Police Department to conduct a full investigation "not only to identify all those responsible for this horrific attack, but also to determine if everything possible was done to protect the victim and the public."

An NYPD police spokesman said there was no delay in the police response.

"A patrol car from the 73rd Precinct was approached on the street and told about the attack by the victim's father, who directed the officers to the scene," police spokesman Stephen Davis said.

"The police officers immediately responded and located the victim," Davis said. "The suspects had already fled."

Adams on Sunday also questioned why the police waited until Saturday night, 48 hours later, to alert the public of the crime when it released surveillance video they said showed the men in a bodega before the alleged incident.

New Yorkers, others on public transit strip to underwear

NEW YORK (AP)—Thousands of New Yorkers thought it was a hot thing Sunday to strip to their underwear during winter and ride on public transportation, along with pantless crowds in about 60 countries.

"I'm a no-pant virgin," declared a grinning Miguel Ramos amid New York's No Pants Subway Ride. It was the Mexican-born restaurant worker's first foray into the "international celebration of silliness," as organizers billed it.

The laughter-filled ritual started in the largest U.S. city in 2002 and has expanded nationwide and overseas, from Atlanta, Chicago and Dallas to London, Berlin, Prague and Vienna.

It's coordinated by Improv Everywhere, a global flash mob.

New York participants were assigned personal numbers for central gathering spots in each city borough. "And then at, say, the third stop in Brooklyn, you take off your pants in the train," explained Latesha Mack, who made it to Manhattan's Union Square station in fishnet stockings below her panties. "So it's not like, a bunch of people on one train with no pants."

While most clothed strap-hangers weaved their way through bare flesh, some were left shocked.

A tall, elegant man—totally clothed—stopped in his tracks as he entered the station.

"I asked the police, 'What's going on?' and he said, 'It's no pants day,'" said Manhattan entrepreneur Mark Francis. "And I said, 'what?'"

The cop told him it was a "tradition." More than 4,000 New Yorkers participated.

In Phoenix, Arizona, the city's light rail system party included a pants-less outing to a pub.

AP

Participants in the annual 'No Pants Metro Ride' stand on a Los Angeles Metro train at Union Station on Jan., 10, 2016, in Los Angeles.

Powerball jackpot world's largest at $1.3 billion

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—Disappointed you didn't win the Powerball jackpot this weekend? Don't be.

Lottery officials say the prize has now swelled to an estimated $1.3 billion—the world's largest. Ever.

"Biggest jackpot in the history of the world. Absolutely confirmed," Texas Lottery executive director Gary Grief said.

The jackpot is so big that billboards in Texas and around the country have to advertise the price as $999 million because they're not built to show billions. The lottery computers will handle the decimal point without a problem.

No one matched all six Powerball numbers Saturday night, leading to the astronomical prize. And that is all but certain to grow before the next drawing Wednesday, according to lottery officials.

"We've never been at these levels," said Grief, whose state lottery is part of the Multi-State Lottery Association that runs Powerball.

The odds to win are one in 292.2 million. Seventy-five percent of all the possible combinations were purchased before Saturday's drawing, Grief said, and he expects that enough tickets will be sold to cover about 80 percent by Wednesday. About 95 percent of Powerball tickets have computer-generated numbers.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-BECQ/DCRM-027

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JANUARY 28, 2016 **TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF TWENTY-THREE (23) WORKSTATIONS WITH CONFIGURATION FOR THE BECQ - DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, **LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.**

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Edward C. Cabrera Petitioner,	)	FCD – 01
	)	CIVIL ACTION
	)	NO. 15-0585
vs.	)	
	)	**SUMMONS FOR**
Amelita L. Quiazon Respondent	)	**PUBLICATION**
	)	

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HBEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is Mailex #274 Box 1085 as soon as practical after filing your answer it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you. by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2015.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Century Tours, Inc.
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) Inventory Assistant (Part-Time)
High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with at least six (6) months retail experience and at least three (3) months of prior receiving, stocking and inventory experience. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Excel, MS Word, Outlook, Power Point). Knowledge on the following equipment: POS terminal, photocopier/facsimile machine, and other items as necessary to accomplish assigned tasks. Must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and move up to 50 pound items using a trolley.

(1) Inventory Assistant
High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with at least six (6) months retail experience and at least three (3) months of prior receiving, stocking and inventory experience. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Excel, MS Word, Outlook, Power Point). Knowledge on the following equipment: POS terminal, photocopier/facsimile machine, and other items as necessary to accomplish assigned tasks. Must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and move up to 50 pound items using a trolley.

(1) Customer Service Agent (Part-Time)
High school diploma, GED or equivalent. Two (02) months work experience in Travel or Tour operation or sales or service based work environment. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Korean, Japanese, or Chinese languages.

(1) Customer Service Agent
High school diploma, GED or equivalent. Two (02) months work experience in Travel or Tour operation or sales or service based work environment. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Korean, Japanese, or Chinese languages.

(7) Tour Sales Representative
High school diploma, GED or equivalent. A minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in a related field. Work experience with travel and tour operation is an advantage. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Russian, Korean, or Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr_ctr@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than January 21, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the Century Tours Office, Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Tours is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055
Tel.: (670) 236-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the ARFF Classroom in the Pacific Region ARFF Training Center at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, on Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (November 25, 2015)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IV. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS
1. New Rate Methodology
2. Master Concession
   a. Ricondo's Recommendation
   b. Program Goals
   c. Proposed legislation
3. Supplemental Request
   a. Airport
   b. Seaport
4. Contracts-Ricondo
5. Personnel Matter: Staff Engineer position
6. Military Implementation and Operations Exercise Plan – Final Regulations

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/
JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors

January 11, 2016

Asia

North Korea's Kim boosts propaganda in praise of nuke test

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un looked Monday to milk his country's recent nuclear test as a propaganda victory, praising his scientists and vowing more nuclear bombs a day after the U.S. flew a powerful nuclear-capable warplane close to the North in a show of force.

A standoff between the rival Koreas has deepened since last week's test, the North's fourth. Seoul on Monday continued anti-Pyongyang propaganda broadcasts across the border and announced that it will further limit the entry of South Koreans to a jointly run factory park in North Korea.

Outside North Korea, Kim faces widespread condemnation and threats of heavy sanctions over the North's disputed claim of a hydrogen bomb test. Internally, however, Kim's massive propaganda apparatus has looked to link the test to Kim's leadership so as to glorify him and portray the test as necessary to combat a U.S.-led attempt to topple the North's authoritarian system.

AP
In this Oct. 10, 2015, file photo, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, joins hands and waves with visiting Chinese official Liu Yunshan, the Communist Party's fifth-ranking leader, during a parade in Pyongyang, North Korea.

On Monday, Kim took photos with nuclear scientists and technicians involved in the test and praised them for "having glorified" his two predecessors, his late father, Kim Jong Il, and his grandfather, state founder Kim Il Sung, according to the state-run Korean Central news Agency.

Kim earlier called the explosion "a self-defensive step" meant to protect the region "from the danger of nuclear war caused by the U.S.-led imperialists," a separate KCNA dispatch said.

The comments provide insight into North Korea's long-running argument that it is the presence of tens of thousands of U.S. troops in South Korea and Japan and a "hostile" U.S. policy that justify its pursuit of nuclear weapons and long-range missiles.

On Sunday, a U.S. B-52 bomber flew low over areas near Seoul, the South Korean capital city only about an hour's drive from the border with the North, a fly-over that North Korea will see as a threat. The B-52 was joined by South Korean F-15 and U.S. F-16 fighters and returned to its base in Guam after the flight, the U.S. military said.

White House chief of staff Denis McDonough said the B-52 flight was intended to underscore to South Korean allies "the deep and enduring alliance that we have with them." Interviewed on CNN, McDonough said the United States would work with South Korea, Japan, China and Russia "to deeply isolate the North Koreans" and "squeeze" them until they live up to prior commitments to get rid of their nuclear weapons.

World powers are looking for ways to punish the North over its disputed bomb test, which, even if not of a hydrogen bomb, still likely pushes Pyongyang closer to its goal of a nuclear-armed missile that can reach the U.S. mainland. Many outside governments and experts question whether the blast was in fact a powerful hydrogen test.

In the wake of the test on Wednesday, the two Koreas have settled into the kind of Cold War-era standoff that has defined their relationship over the past seven decades. Since Friday, South Korea has been blasting anti-Pyongyang propaganda from huge speakers along the border, and the North is using speakers of its own to send messages, although Seoul says they are too weak to be heard clearly on the South Korean side.

Pakistan says it will respond to any threat to Saudi Arabia

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Any threat to Saudi Arabia's territorial integrity will evoke a strong response from Islamabad, Pakistani army chief Gen. Raheel Sharif said Sunday.

Sharif made the remarks in a statement after Saudi Deputy Crown Prince and Defense Minister Mohammed bin Salman met with him in the garrison city of Rawalpindi, adjacent to the capital.

Salman earlier arrived in Islamabad, making him the second top Saudi official to visit Pakistan in a week amid growing tension with Iran over Shiite cleric Nimr al-Nimr's recent execution.

Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir visited Pakistan a couple of days ago.

The visits came after Saudi Arabia and several of its allies announced the severing or downgrading of diplomatic relations with Shiite powerhouse Iran. Protesters in Tehran stormed the Saudi embassy and a Saudi consulate elsewhere in the country after Saudi Arabia executed al-Nimr, a prominent Shiite cleric and opposition leader earlier this month.

Pakistan, a predominantly Sunni state, also has a large Shiite population. Pakistan has had a history of sectarian violence where Sunni and Shiite militants have reportedly been funded and supported by Gulf states for their proxy wars.

The deputy crown prince later called on Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

The people of Pakistan would always stand with the people of Saudi Arabia, said Sharif in a statement after the meeting. Pakistan has previously agreed to become part of a Saudi-led counter-terrorism alliance. Sharif welcomed the initiative and informed the prince about Pakistan's support for efforts to oppose terrorism and extremism. It was agreed that the two countries would cooperate in developing an effective counter narrative to defeat the extremist mindset, said the statement. It said Pakistan also expressed its readiness to offer its offices to brotherly Muslim countries for resolution of their differences through peaceful dialogue and reconciliation.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thai cosmetics company pulls ad showing actress in blackface

BANGKOK (AP)—"You just need to be white to win." A skin-whitening ad in Thailand featuring that slogan alongside a famous actress in blackface makeup sparked such outrage that the company pulled it Friday, just a day after releasing it. The retraction did little, however, to stem a debate the ad ignited about the regularity of racist advertisements in the Southeast Asian country. The online video campaign for a new product called "Snowz" starred porcelain-skinned Thai movie star Cris Horwang. In the ad, she talks about being an aging actress in a competitive industry as gentle piano music plays in the background. "If I stopped looking after myself, everything that I have worked for—all the investment I have made to keep myself white—would disappear," says the 35-year-old starlet. "New stars would replace me, I would fade away."

Bomb kills 2 coast guards in southwest Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani police officer says a roadside bomb has killed two coast guards and wounded three others in the country's southwest. Police officer Muhammad Sajid says the coast guard's vehicle was struck Saturday in the Baluchistan province, which has long been the scene of a low-level separatist insurgency. Sajid says the explosion destroyed the vehicle and wounded all five guards. He says two of the guards died before reaching the hospital. Elsewhere in Baluchistan, armed motorcyclists gunned down two policemen who were guarding a mosque in the provincial capital, Quetta. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks. Baloch separatists have targeted Pakistani security forces in the past.

Chinese official who oversaw hospital demolition fired

BEIJING (AP)—Local officials in a central Chinese province violated rules in forcibly demolishing part of a hospital, sending medical staff fleeing and burying under rubble six bodies being processed at a morgue, a state broadcaster said Sunday. Xiong Zhiliang, a district official overseeing demolition work in the city of Zhengzhou, was fired, while local police were further investigating the incident that took place on Thursday, China Central Television said. Forced demolitions are common in Chinese cities, where local authorities turn to real estate development to fuel economic growth. Clashes over land are frequent, and some turn deadly. The No. 4 Hospital of Zhengzhou University has accused the local government of ordering the demolition after failing to get the hospital to agree to a road expansion project.

Huge Catholic parade held under heavy security in Manila

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—More than a million Filipino Roman Catholic devotees jammed Manila's streets Saturday for an annual procession of a centuries-old statue of Christ that was held under extra heavy security following the Paris attacks.

About 5,000 police and soldiers were deployed to secure the daylong procession of the Black Nazarene in one of Asia's largest religious festivals, although no specific threat was being monitored.

The huge crowd reached more than a million by noon, Manila police Chief Superintendent Rolando Nana said.

The raucous gathering is a security nightmare for the Philippines, a poor Southeast Asian country battling widespread crime nationwide and Muslim extremists in the south. Police sharpshooters, bomb-sniffing dogs and SWAT teams stood by and surveillance drones were flown over the slow-moving procession.

Security forces randomly checked bags for weapons, firecrackers and pointed objects, including umbrellas, which were banned. Coast guard and navy personnel patrolled a major river where the procession crossed over.

Although there was no specific terrorist threat, security concerns were sparked by recent brazen attacks by Islamic State group extremists in countries such as France, police said.

A tired devotee fainted during the procession and died from an unspecified ailment. Nearly 1,000 other people received treatment for minor illnesses and injuries, including many who got bruised or sustained fractures while jostling through the thick crowds to get close to or have their white towels wiped on the wooden statue of Christ, which was on a carriage pulled by a rope by men in maroon shirts, according to Gwendolyn Pang of the Philippine Red Cross.

The wooden statue of Christ, crowned with thorns and bearing a cross, is believed to have been brought from Mexico to Manila on a galleon in 1606 by Spanish missionaries. The ship that carried it caught fire, but the charred statue survived. Some believe the statue's survival from fires and earthquakes through the centuries and intense bombings during World War II is a testament to its mystical powers.

The spectacle reflects the Philippines' unique brand of Catholicism, which includes folk superstitions, in Asia's largest Catholic nation. Dozens of Filipinos have themselves nailed to crosses on Good Friday in another tradition to emulate Christ's suffering that draws huge crowds each year.

World

Mexico begins extradition proceedings against drug lord

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico began the process of extraditing drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman to the United States, two days after the famed fugitive was recaptured following a dramatic, months-long hunt featuring movies stars, sewer escapes and bloody shootouts.

Officials warned that the process could take a long time as Guzman's lawyers file legal appeals and maneuver to keep their client in Mexico, where he has already escaped from maximum security prisons twice.

On Sunday, agents formally notified Guzman that he was wanted in the United States. In a statement, the Attorney General's Office said Mexican agents assigned to the international police agency Interpol served two arrest warrants to the drug lord, who is being held at the Altiplano prison following his capture by Mexican marines on Friday.

Guzman's defense now has three days to present arguments against extradition and 20 days to present supporting evidence, beyond the plethora of other appeals they have already started filing.

AP
Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, right, is escorted by soldiers and marines to a waiting helicopter, at a federal hangar in Mexico City, Friday, Jan. 8, 2016.

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Guzman's powerful Sinaloa cartel smuggles multi-ton shipments of cocaine and marijuana as well as manufacturing and transporting methamphetamines and heroin, mostly to the U.S. He is wanted in various U.S. states and his July escape deeply embarrassed the government of President Enrique Pena Nieto and strained ties between the countries.

Guzman's attorney Juan Pablo Badillo has said the defense has already filed six motions to challenge extradition requests.

Badillo said that his client shouldn't be extradited to the U.S. because "our country must respect national sovereignty, the sovereignty of its institutions to impart justice."

On Saturday, a Mexican federal law enforcement official said the quickest Guzman could be extradited would be six months, but even that is not likely because of the many appeals filed by his lawyers. He said that the appeals are usually turned down, but each one means a judge has to schedule a hearing.

"That can take weeks or months, and that delays the extradition," he said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to comment. "We've had cases that take six years."

Mexico's willingness to extradite Guzman is a sharp turnaround from the last time he was captured in 2014, when then-Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam said the extradition would happen only after he finished his sentence in Mexico in "300 or 400 years."

French president, rocker honor 2015 attack victims

PARIS (AP)—French President Francois Hollande and other dignitaries held a special ceremony Sunday to honor all those killed in Islamic extremist violence around Paris in 2015—a year when the European way of life was targeted time and again with deadly consequences.

At least one attacker is at large, and France's top security official acknowledged Sunday that authorities don't know his whereabouts. The country is under a state of emergency after attacks in Paris on Nov. 13. Paris was again jolted Thursday when a man wearing a fake explosives vest and wielding a butcher's knife ran up to a police station and was shot to death by officers standing guard.

Hollande and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo unveiled a plaque Sunday in memory of victims targeted at satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, a kosher market, a rock concert, cafes, a stadium and elsewhere. The violence left some 150 victims dead, and several attackers were also killed.

The ceremony took place at Place de la Republique, a plaza that has become a symbol of Parisians' solidarity since the attacks, which began Jan. 7, 2015 with the Charlie Hebdo attack.

French rocker and national icon Johnny Hallyday joined the army choir in a special, somber musical performance.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve called for national unity and insisted the government is doing all it can to protect France.

Many questions remain about the Nov. 13 attacks, including how many people were involved and may still be at large.

Cazeneuve said on i-Tele television Sunday that "We don't know where Salah Abdeslam is," referring to a fugitive gunman. Abdeslam crossed into Belgium Nov. 14 and Belgian authorities believe he hid out in a Brussels area apartment used to make bombs for the Paris attacks before moving on.

Meanwhile, acting on "concrete evidence" from French security authorities, German police on Saturday raided an apartment at a shelter for asylum-seekers in the western German city of Recklinghausen that they say had been occupied by the man who was killed by French police in Thursday's incident outside a Paris police station.

Arab League slams Iran 'meddling' in Arab affairs

CAIRO (AP)—Arab foreign ministers, with the exception of Lebanon, condemned in a Sunday statement what they called Iran's meddling in Arab affairs.

The ministers accused Iran of breaking international agreements by intentionally failing to protect Saudi diplomatic posts in a statement issued following a closed emergency meeting.

Lebanon, which has a large Shiite population and is home to powerful Shiite militant group Hezbollah, was the only dissenting voice. Lebanese Foreign Minister Gibran Bassil said in a statement that his country had rejected the statement because it also condemned Hezbollah over alleged interference in Bahrain.

Protesters in Tehran stormed the Saudi Embassy and a Saudi consulate elsewhere in the country after Saudi Arabia executed Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr, a prominent Shiite cleric and opposition leader, earlier this month.

Emirati Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan who led the emergency meeting said the embassy attack "took place under the nose and within the earshot of security forces."

Saudi's Arabia's Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir said that Arab nations would "confront" the Islamic Republic if it does not change its ways, without elaborating. Arab League Chief Nabil Elaraby said the region's foreign ministers will discuss the "steps" they can take against Iran in future meetings over the next two months. Al-Jubier added that there was no real timeline for such measures.

"We don't want conflict. We don't want war," the UAE's Al Nahyan told reporters.

Sunday's session was requested by Saudi Arabia to discuss the attacks. The ensuing crisis has seen Saudi Arabia and several Arab states cut or downgrade diplomatic ties with Iran.

"Iran doesn't have qualms and doesn't hesitate to using the sectarian card as a way to dominate the region, and interfering in the internal affairs of Arab countries," Al Nahyan said at the opening ceremony.

In the closing press conference, al-Jubeir stressed that Iran has no right to speak out for Shiite minorities in the region because at the end of the day they are Arab citizens.

WORLD BRIEFS

Egypt's first parliament in 3 years convenes

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's first legislature in more than three years, a 596-seat chamber packed with supporters of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, held its inaugural session on Sunday, signaling the completion of a political road map announced after the 2013 military overthrow of an elected Islamist president. The assembly, elected in November and December, is the first legislature since el-Sissi, as military chief, led the 2013 ouster of President Mohammed Morsi following mass protests against the Islamist leader and his Muslim Brotherhood. The new parliament replaces one dominated by Islamists that was dissolved by a court ruling in June 2012. The new chamber's first task will be to ratify some 300 presidential decrees issued by el-Sissi since taking office in June 2014 and Interim President Adly Mansour before him. Under the constitution, these decrees must be ratified within 15 days starting from the date of the inaugural session. Failure to do so will result in the automatic repeal of the laws.

Ghana intends to extradite suspect in UK actress slaying

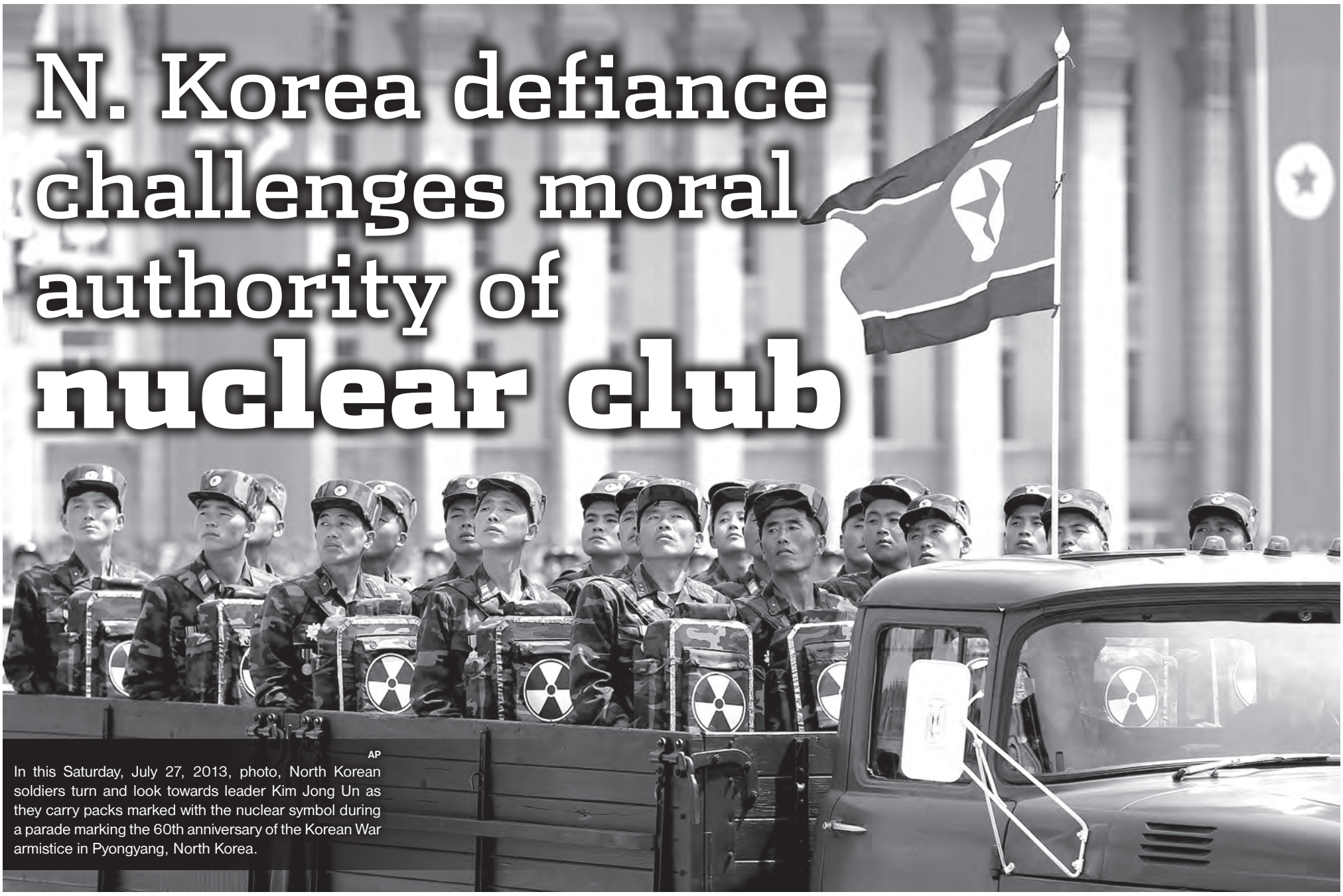
ACCRA, Ghana (AP)—Ghanaian authorities intend to extradite a suspect in the slayings of a British actress and her two young sons in London, a senior police official said Sunday. Arthur Simpson-Kent, 48, who was the boyfriend of former "EastEnders" actress Sian Blake, was arrested Saturday in western Ghana. Simpson-Kent was "smoked from a thicket near Butre where he was hiding," said Prosper Agblor, director general of the criminal investigations department. "He was armed with a knife. He was disarmed and arrested." Video footage showed Simpson-Kent being led through a police complex with his hands cuffed behind him. Britain hasn't formally requested Simpson-Kent's extradition, but authorities plan to make an application soon.

Spain: Princess Cristina heads to court for tax fraud trial

PALMA DE MALLORCA, Spain (AP)—Princess Cristina and her husband are heading to court for the start of an historic trial that marks the first time a member of Spain's royal family has faced criminal charges since the monarchy was restored in 1975. The 50-year-old Cristina is accused of two counts of tax fraud carrying a maximum prison sentence of eight years for allegedly failing to declare taxes on personal expenses paid by a real estate company she owned with her husband. She will sit in the dock Monday with 17 others including her husband, Olympic handball medalist turned businessman Inaki Urdangarin. He faces more serious charges of using his Duke of Palma title to embezzle about 6 million euros ($6.5 million) in public contracts through the nonprofit Noos Institute he ran with an associate.

Focus

N. Korea defiance challenges moral authority of nuclear club



AP

In this Saturday, July 27, 2013, photo, North Korean soldiers turn and look towards leader Kim Jong Un as they carry packs marked with the nuclear symbol during a parade marking the 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice in Pyongyang, North Korea.

ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press
JON CHOL JIN, Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—When North Korea claimed triumphantly that it had tested its first hydrogen bomb, it was roundly and predictably condemned by the United States, China, Russia, Britain, France and India, countries estimated to possess a combined total of more than 15,000 nuclear warheads.

Non-nuclear powers condemned the test, too, including Japan, the country that was on the receiving end of the only atomic bomb attack in history—the U.S. bombing that ended World War II in the Pacific in 1945.

But while most of the world, East and West, agrees that no one wants North Korea to be an effectively functioning nuclear power, a question that can't be escaped lurks behind the condemnation: How much right do nations have to tell other nations what to do? Moreover, how much of a right do nuclear powers, which have no intention of giving up their own arsenals, have to demand others to give up theirs?

North Korea, of course, says none.

In a show of defiance and nationalist pride that is so characteristic of the North, masses of North Koreans filled Pyongyang's Kim Il Sung Square on Friday, which happened to also be leader Kim Jong Un's birthday, to celebrate their military's new crown jewel. Fireworks and dancing parties were held after the rally.

"This hydrogen bomb test represents the higher stage of development of our nuclear arms," Pak Pong Ju, North Korea's premier, told the crowd, which officials said was 100,000-strong. "It will go down in history as a perfect success and now the DPRK is proud to be ranked among nuclear states possessing hydrogen bombs. The Korean people can demonstrate the stamina of a dignified nation with the strongest nuclear deterrent."

The North's official name is the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

With its latest test last Wednesday, which may or may not have been of an H-bomb—outside expert opinion remains divided—it is treading further down a dangerous, but well-worn, path.

As has been the case with every nation that went nuclear, possession of such weapons is seen by the North's regime as a strategic necessity. That's why decades of pleading with and punishing the North simply haven't worked.

Developing a credible nuclear force is in the long run cheaper for Pyongyang and far more likely to be successful than building and maintaining the massive and highly sophisticated conventional forces that would be needed to deter the United States. Though mega weapons like the H-bomb have become largely irrelevant to superpower military planners, who now have the technology to conduct precision attacks that are far more effective and less likely to generate universal condemnation, it's the kind of threat that still works for Pyongyang.

Its self-defense claim is also hardly extraordinary. It has been used by all of the nuclear powers.

After dropping its first nuclear weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the United States went on to develop its arsenal of nuclear doomsday devices because of what it saw as the threat of Soviet aggression. The Soviets made the same claim, but about the U.S. Some European allies, not wanting to be too dependent on the U.S., followed Washington's lead. The Chinese, worried about both Washington and Moscow, got one of their own. India got the bomb because of Pakistan, and Pakistan because of India. And Israel is believed to have nuclear weapons because of its neighbors.

None has given up their nuclear arsenals. The recent nuclear deal between the U.S. and Iran may have made a dent in Pyongyang's thinking, but two countries that did start down that path and failed—Iraq and Libya—appear to still weigh much more heavily.

"The Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq and the Gadhafi regime in Libya could not escape the fate of destruction after being deprived of their foundations for nuclear development and giving up nuclear programs of their own accord, yielding to the pressure of the U.S. and the West keen on their regime changes," the Korean Central News Agency said in an editorial Friday.

If, as North Korea claims, it is trying to defend itself against a nuclear-armed adversary bent on regime change and with which it is actually at war—the 1950-53 Korean War ended in an armistice, not a peace treaty—why should its claim to have a right to possess nuclear weapons be treated any differently from other nuclear powers?

For the nuclear haves, that's not even worth considering—North Korea is too irresponsible, too unpredictable and too untrustworthy for it to be a valid question.

"There is no need to argue about why North Korea can't have nuclear arsenal while other countries have already become nuclear powers," said Shi Yinhong, one of China's best-known international relations scholars at Renmin University and a sometime government adviser. "All the nuclear powers such as U.S., China, France, the U.K. and Russia are responsible major countries in this field."

"Of course, decades of antagonism between the U.S. and North Korea helped the North Korean leader to make up his mind to go nuclear, but it is not the main reason," Shi added. "The main reason for the North to go nuclear is the need of the North Korean regime to hold on to its autocratic power."

China, however, also conducted its first tests under an autocrat, Mao Zedong.

Like North Korea, India is also deeply proud of its nuclear program and sensitive to any criticism of it, particularly when it comes from other nuclear powers, and the United States, along with most of the world, has accepted India as a de facto nuclear weapons state.

But unlike North Korea, that was in large part because a nuclear India served the interests of at least some of the status quo.

"To put it crudely, it's about China," said Rahul Bedi, a prominent New Delhi-based writer on defense issues. As China's power has grown in recent years, the West has sought allies to balance out Beijing's ever-growing influence. India, with its growing economy, regional influence and democratic government, was pretty much the only choice. "The world, and the Western world in particular, needs a frontline state, in a sense, to challenge the Chinese."

Although Pyongyang is hoping that, like India, given enough time the world will simply have to accept it a nuclear power, it is for now truly going forward on its own.

Overdrive

With SUV look, tech touches, Chrysler aims to revive minivan

DETROIT (AP)—Thirty-three years ago, Chrysler invented the minivan. Now, it's reinventing it—with styling reminiscent of an SUV, high-tech features and a first-ever hybrid version that Chrysler hopes will make minivans popular again.

The 2017 Chrysler Pacifica will be unveiled Monday morning at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

It's the latest incarnation of the family hauler that took the suburbs by storm. Lee Iacocca, Chrysler Corp.'s former chairman, drove the company's first minivan off the assembly line in 1983. Baby Boomers loved its sliding doors and roomy interior, and the minivan quickly replaced station wagons as the vehicle of choice for shuttling around kids. By the early 1990s, Chrysler was selling more than 500,000 per year. U.S. minivan sales peaked at 1.37 million in 2000.

This Friday, Jan. 8, 2016, photo, shows the 2017 Chrysler Pacifica, in Auburn Hills, Mich. AP

But minivans took a hit when car companies started making crossovers—small SUVs that had as much space as minivans but handled more like cars and had better fuel economy. Minivans suddenly looked clunky and undesirable. General Motors and Ford stopped making them altogether. Last year, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles—Chrysler's current owner—sold less than 200,000 minivans in the U.S.

FCA aims to reverse that slide with the Pacifica, which goes on sale this spring. It replaces both the Chrysler Town and Country and Dodge Grand Caravan.

There's hardly anything the company didn't change with the Pacifica—members of some focus groups didn't realize it was a minivan, the company says. FCA's car chief, Tim Kuniskis, says a vehicle so different deserved a new name; the company settled on "Pacifica," the name of a small SUV Chrysler sold a decade ago.

The Pacifica has a sleeker, swept-back look than the current boxy models, which were last redesigned in 2008. It sits lower to the ground and has bigger wheels, giving it a more substantial feel. It looks more luxurious, with bright chrome strips outlining the windows and LED-accented headlights and taillights.

But FCA knows looks alone aren't enough to fend off rivals like the Honda Odyssey and the Toyota Sienna, which have been eating away at Chrysler's market share for years.

So it's debuting several segment firsts. The Pacifica will be the only minivan with a plug-in hybrid version. The hybrid will go up to 30 miles on electric power alone before its gas engine kicks in, thanks to a lithium-ion battery tucked under the second-row seats. Gas-powered models have a 3.6-liter V-6 engine with 287 horsepower. Chrysler promises the new minivan, 200 pounds lighter than its predecessors, will have the best fuel economy in the segment.

And Chrysler is changing the minvan's hallmark feature, the sliding doors: They'll be aluminum and hands-free, opening automatically if the driver waves a foot under them. The vehicle also can automatically perform parallel and perpendicular parking, and the rear-seat entertainment system has two ten-inch touchscreens that let passengers play games, watch movies or surf the Internet.

Pricing hasn't been announced. The current Chrysler Town and Country—the fancier of the company's models—starts at $30,000.

Kelley Blue Book analyst Mark Williams says minivans face an uphill battle. This fall, small SUVs became the biggest segment of the U.S. new-vehicle market, at 14 percent. Small vans make up only about 3 percent of that market, according to Ward's AutoInfoBank.

Still, Williams thinks the Pacifica is a minivan the owner can be proud to drive.

And there's one more selling point for parents: The rear touchscreens have a map mode that can show a child how far the minivan is from its destination.

That's right, no more asking, "Are we there yet?"

MOTORING Q&A

Mazda remote causing all sorts of problems

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: Please help! Neither my local Mazda dealer nor independents can come up with a solution to the problem with my 2006 Mazda Tribute. Not always, but every so often, the remote will not lock the doors, will not unlock the doors, and then I cannot start the car. After much manipulation of the remote, open and closing doors, etc., it finally works. I have purchased new remotes, changed batteries in remotes, but nothing helps. Sure hope you can help; it is mighty frustrating.

A: Did either service agency plug in a scan tool to check for fault codes? If not, this is the first step. A search of my automotive database found that if codes B1300 or B2111 are stored in memory the problem is with the power door lock circuits, possibly a short to ground. B2425 would indicate that the remote keyless entry, or RKE, transmitter is out of sync with the smart junction box, or SJB. This can occur if the RKE button is pushed a number of times when outside the range of the transmitter. To resynchronize the rolling code system, with the key off press any button on the RKE four times within 30 seconds. The SJB or its connections might be at fault.

When the vehicle will not start, do you notice the security warning light on the dash? The passive anti-theft system, or PATS, on this vehicle has an anti-scan feature that prevents attempts to enter or start the vehicle with some type of rolling code generator. If a damaged, uncoded or incorrect key is used to switch the ignition on, the PATS system will prevent the vehicle from starting and flash the security light rapidly for 60 seconds, then flash a fault code. If you have two keys, switch the ignition off after the security light has flashed rapidly for 20 seconds, remove the key and insert the other key. Turn the ignition on, then off, then try to start the car. If it starts, the first key was not programmed properly.

Q: I read your comment that you change oil more frequently than recommended by the manufacturer. Why? Isn't it wasteful to change oil more often, wasting both money and oil? On what do you base your recommendation?

A: Simple answer: it's MY vehicle, not the manufacturer's. The cost of this "extra" maintenance is far, far less than the cost of premature engine problems due to sludge from lubricant oxidation, contamination, fuel dilution or additive depletion. Are any of these likely to happen? No. Do they happen? Yes. Who pays for repairs, lost value, etc.? Carmakers? No. Me? Yes.

And the "prematurely" changed oil is not wasted, it is recycled. In fact, I often re-use it in my small-engine equipment.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, *is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.*

Message of Appreciation

We, the Wife, Children and families of

†Christopher Shamp O. Eugenio

Would like to extend our most heartfelt appreciation to our relatives and friends who surrounded us with their love, prayers, kindness and support.

Your thoughtful gestures and kind words have consoled our hearts beyond our expectation in such difficult times. Your presence at the nightly rosary and most especially at the mass of Christian burial was very comforting.

We will always remember you in our hearts and prayers.

May God Bless You All.

Thank you, Olomwaay and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

From the Wife, Children and Family

Life & Style

Hamm, Henson, 'Mozart in the Jungle' lead Globes TV honors

By DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

Golden Globes voters showed sentiment in giving Jon Hamm a farewell award for leading "Mad Men," but also fulfilled a traditional role in highlighting lesser-known work on television.

Amazon Prime's "Mozart in the Jungle" won the Globe for best comedy or musical and earned an actor award for Gael Garcia Bernal, while USA's "Mr. Robot" won best drama and a supporting actor award for veteran Christian Slater. Amazon and USA were the only two content services to win more than once on Sunday.

AMC's "Mad Men" ended its run with a memorable scene, ad man Draper supposedly getting the idea for a Coke commercial that was a landmark in the 1970s. Hamm, in accepting his second Golden Globe for his role, joked that he appreciated writers not taking his suggestion to end the series with music from the British band Chumbawamba.

"Thank you so much to the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for supporting our show for as long as you did—all the way to the end," he said.

It almost felt like a lifetime achievement award, because elsewhere the Globe voters were attracted to whatever was shiny and new.

Taraji P. Henson came prepared, handing out cookies to audience members as she came to the stage to accept a best actress award. The reference is to her character's name in Fox's music business soap, "Empire." Like many honorees, she plowed through the music that not-so-subtly reminds them to wrap up their speeches.

"I waited 20 years for this," she said. "You're gonna wait."

Pop music star Lady Gaga oozed Hollywood glamour with a gown that was some distance away from her wild concert stage get-ups. Gaga, who won a Globe for playing the Countess in "American Horror Story: Hotel," noted that she wanted to be an actress before a singer.

"This is one of the greatest moments of my life," Gaga said.

Rachel Bloom burst into tears upon learning that she had won best comedy actress for the freshman series "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend" on the CW. The quasi-musical has won critical plaudits but has struggled to find an audience. She recalled how after another network rejected the pilot, six other networks in a single day turned down a chance to acquire it.

"We knew it was good and Mark Pedowitz of the CW picked it out and he's the one that saved us," Bloom said. A year earlier, the CW's Gina Rodriguez won the same award for "Jane the Virgin," which airs back-to-back with "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend" on Mondays.

The USA network had to have the happiest executives on Sunday. It has been trying to make the turn from blander programming to edgier fare, and the critically acclaimed "Mr. Robot" is taking the lead in that effort. Only series star Roni Malek fell short in his effort at a trophy, losing to Hamm.

Bernal is the star of "Mozart in the Jungle," about backstage battles in New York City's classical music world. The actor winner portrays the conductor Rodrigo De Souza.

Jeffrey Tambor of "Transparent" was considered such a favorite by insiders that fellow nominee Aziz Ansari pretended to read a book, "How to Lose to Jeffrey Tambor With Dignity" as he was introduced.

"This is incredible," Bernal said. "This is a really big surprise."

Veteran Maura Tierney won a supporting actress for her work as the spurned wife in Showtime's "The Affair," a role that required a lot of quiet seething. She poked fun at her co-star, Dominic West, who she said should have had his own special category—best performance in a role that makes every woman watching hate him. He handled it with grace, she said.

Oscar Isaac won a supporting actor award for his work in "Show Me a Hero," the HBO limited series about the struggle to build public housing in Yonkers, N.Y.

The victory of "Wolf Hall" in the category of best TV movie or miniseries led to an international political pitch. The BBC-made series is aired on PBS in the United States, and its win was good news for the public television service as it faces the end of "Downton Abbey."

Streaming services, cable networks and broadcasters all won trophies Sunday, but not the three best-known networks in the business—CBS, ABC or NBC. NBC aired the Globes.

DiCaprio wins Golden Globe for dramatic actor

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Leonardo DiCaprio did more than just survive a bear mauling in "The Revenant." He won a Golden Globe as best dramatic actor for the 19th century survival epic.

The movie also earned Globes for motion picture, and for director Alejandro Inarritu at the Sunday night ceremony.

"It's very rewarding," DiCaprio said backstage. "We had a very solid opening weekend because I think people appreciate seeing a different type of cinema out there."

DiCaprio was saluted with a standing ovation from the audience when his name was called at the Beverly Hilton hotel.

As a fur trapper, DiCaprio braved icy waters, ate raw bison and went to find his mates who left him for dead in the unforgiving wilderness. The film was shot during nine months in what he described as "rough conditions."

"I share the award with all the indigenous communities around the world," DiCaprio said in his acceptance speech. "It is time we recognize your history and protect your indigenous lands from corporate interests and people who are out there to exploit them."

DiCaprio beat out fellow nominees Bryan Cranston of "Trumbo," Michael Fassbender of "Steve Jobs," Eddie Redmayne of "The Danish Girl," and Will Smith of "Concussion."

AP

In this image released by NBC, Leonardo DiCaprio accepts the award for best actor in a motion picture drama for his role in "The Revenant" during the 73rd Annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016.

The 41-year-old actor born in Hollywood earned his third career Golden Globe. His earlier wins came two years ago for "The Wolf of Wall Street" and in 2005 for "The Aviator."

Jennifer Lawrence wins Golden Globe for best comedy actress

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Jennifer Lawrence continued her Golden Globes hot streak by winning best actress in a motion picture comedy on Sunday for her portrayal of Miracle Mop inventor Joy Mangano in "Joy."

This is her third Golden Globe win for a performance in a David O. Russell movie. She previously won a supporting award for "American Hustle" and for her leading role in "Silver Linings Playbook," and the trend was not lost on Lawrence.

"Every time I'm up here is because of you," Lawrence said in her acceptance speech, which focused mainly on Russell.

"Thank you for teaching me so much, professionally, personally," Lawrence continued. "I want us to be buried next to each other. I really do."

Lawrence was up against nominees Lily Tomlin ("Grandma"), Melissa McCarthy ("Spy"), Maggie Smith ("The Lady in the Van") and her friend Amy Schumer ("Trainwreck") in the category.

Lawrence and Schumer's friendship has become the stuff of pop culture legend. The two have vacationed together, are co-writing a movie, and even co-presented on stage at the awards on Sunday night.

Unlike the best actress drama category, the comedy category is not expected to help predict eventual Oscar nominees, save for Lawrence. Notably, though, Lawrence did not receive a Screen Actors Guild nomination for "Joy."

Last year Amy Adams won for her role as the painter Margaret Keane in "Big Eyes." She was not nominated for an Oscar.

Rolling Stone faces criticism over 'El Chapo' interview

NEW YORK (AP)—It was a big scoop, and one Rolling Stone may well regret.

The magazine made stunning news over the weekend by revealing that actor Sean Penn landed a rare interview last fall with the notorious drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman while Guzman was on the run after escaping through a tunnel from a maximum-security Mexican prison. Guzman was recaptured Friday in Mexico after a shootout that killed five of his associates and wounded one marine.

Penn's long and often rambling essay, widely mocked on social media, included comments from Guzman on everything from his childhood to his thoughts on the drug trade.

It also raised questions of ethics and judgment, namely whether Penn should have met secretly with one of the world's most-wanted fugitives, whether the actor crossed the line by giving Guzman approval over the article before it was published, and whether Penn trivialized El Chapo's murderous past by asking him such questions as "Do you have any dreams?" and "If you could change the world, would you?"

A Rolling Stone spokeswoman did not immediately return requests for comment.

Penn's story ran nine months after Rolling Stone retracted its discredited story about a gang rape at a fraternity party at the University of Virginia. The magazine was strongly criticized for relying too strongly on the account of the alleged victim and failing to carry out basic fact-checking. It is being sued for tens of millions of dollars by the fraternity, former frat members and a university administrator.

Writing for Rolling Stone, Penn acknowledged that Guzman was granted prior approval over the article (Guzman requested no changes, according to the actor), a violation of the commonly held rules of journalistic integrity.

"Allowing any source control over a story's content is inexcusable. The practice of pre-approval discredits the entire story—whether the subject requests changes or not," Andrew Seaman, chairman of the ethics committee of the Society of Professional Journalists, said in a blog post titled "Rolling Stone Gathers No Accolades."

"The writer, who in this case is an actor and activist, may write the story in a more favorable light and omit unflattering facts in an attempt to not be rejected."

Penn, an Oscar-winning actor who played a drug dealer in the 1985 movie "The Falcon and the Snowman," has had news-making encounters in other countries. In 2002, as the U.S. was threatening war against Saddam Hussein's Iraq, Penn visited the country and met with senior officials. He has also spoken with such foreign critics of the U.S. as Fidel Castro and Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez.

Iconic singer David Bowie dies at 69

NEW YORK (AP)—David Bowie, the iconic and shape-shifting British singer whose illustrious career lasted five decade with hits like "Fame," ''Heroes" and "Let's Dance," died Sunday after a battle with cancer. He was 69.

Representative Steve Martin said early Monday that Bowie died "peacefully" and was surrounded by family. He had battled cancer for 18 months.

"While many of you will share in this loss, we ask that you respect the family's privacy during their time of grief," the statement read. No more details were provided.

Bowie turned 69 on Friday, the same day he released a new album called "Blackstar."

The singer, who was born David Jones in London, came of age in the glam rock era of the early 1970s. He had a striking androgynous look in his early days and was known for changing his looks and sounds. He had launched a provocative alter-ego named Ziggy Stardust, and the stuttering rock sound of "Changes" gave way to the disco soul of "Young Americans," co-written with John Lennon, to a droning collaboration with Brian Eno in Berlin that produced "Heroes."

He had some of his biggest successes in the early 1980s with the stylist "Let's Dance," and a massive American tour.

"My entire career, I've only really worked with the same subject matter," Bowie told The Associated Press in a 2002 interview. "The trousers may change, but the actual words and subjects I've always chosen to write with are things to do with isolation, abandonment, fear and anxiety—all of the high points of one's life."

At a concert for rescue workers after the 2001 World Trade Center attacks, his performance of "Heroes" was a highlight.

"What I'm most proud of is that I can't help but notice that I've affected the vocabulary of pop music. For me, frankly, as an artist, that's the most satisfying thing for the ego."

Bowie was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996, but he didn't attend the ceremony. Madonna, another artist who knew something about changing styles to stay ahead of the curve, accepted for him and recounted how a Bowie concert changed her life when she attended it as a teenager. David Byrne, of the art rockers Talking Heads, inducted Bowie and said he gave rock music a necessary shot in the arm.

"Like all rock 'n' roll, it was visionary, it was tasteless, it was glamorous, it was perverse, it was fun, it was crass, it was sexy and it was confusing," Byrne said.

Bowie kept a low profile in recent years after reportedly suffering a heart attack in the 2000s. He made a moody album three years ago called "The Next Day"—his first recording in a decade which was made in secret in New York City. "Blackstar," which earned positive reviews from critics, represented yet another stylistic shift, as he gathered jazz players to join him.

He released a music video on Friday for the new song "Lazarus," which shows a frail Bowie lying in bed and singing the track's lyrics. The song begins with the line: "Look up here, I'm in heaven."

Tributes poured in for the singer. British astronaut Tim Peake tweeted about his sadness from outer space aboard the International Space Station, saying "his music was an inspiration to many."

British Prime Minister David Cameron tweeted that Bowie's death is "a huge loss." He wrote he had grown up listening to and watching Bowie and called the singer a "master of reinvention" and a pop genius who kept on getting it right.

Kanye West said on Twitter that Bowie "was one of my most important inspirations, so fearless, so creative, he gave us magic for a lifetime."

Bowie felt uneasy about some of his greatest material, once embarking on a "greatest hits" tour saying it would be the last time performing much of his old material. He later relented, however.

"I'm not a natural performer," he said in the 2002 interview. "I don't enjoy performing terribly much. Never have. I can do it and, if my mind's on the situation, do it quite well. But five or six shows in, I'm dying to get off the road and go back into the studio."

Bowie was married to international supermodel Iman since 1992.

In this Jan. 9, 1997, file photo, David Bowie performs during a concert celebrating his 50th birthday, at Madison Square Garden in New York.

AP

Hanks salutes Denzel Washington as DeMille winner

AP

In this image released by NBC, Denzel Washington accepts the Cecil B. Demille Award at the 73rd Annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016.

NEW YORK (AP)—Denzel Washington was given the Golden Globe lifetime achievement award on Sunday, with his "Philadelphia" co-star Tom Hanks saluting him as an actor with the "mysterious power not just to hold our attention, but demand it."

Hanks recited a list of legendary actors—Marlon Brando, Robert De Niro and the like—that command the most respect in the industry.

"The list is finite," Hanks said. "The club is exclusive. But it includes the actor who is being given the Cecil B. DeMille Award tonight," said Hanks, who said he was fighting a cold.

Washington brought his family onstage for a speech that appeared to be cut short by a failure to bring his glasses with him. His wife reminded him twice that he needed them—and the second time, he agreed.

Washington won Oscars for roles in "Glory" and "Training Day," and has a long list of credits including "Malcolm X," ''The Hurricane," ''Flight," ''The Manchurian Candidate" and "Mo' Better Blues."

In his speech, he thanked his mother for convincing his father that the family needed light bulbs more powerful than 25 watts.

"God bless you all," he said.

Father ignoring gum disease needs a good chewing-out

DEAR ABBY: My husband has developed a bad case of periodontal disease. I'm afraid to kiss him because I don't want the bacteria causing the disease to spread and his bad breath is unbearable. Our sex life is suffering because of it.

We have two beautiful children together, and I love him very much—even if he loses all his teeth at the age of 37. I have explained how extremely important oral hygiene is to overall health, especially heart health, and how his unwillingness to deal with this sends the wrong message to our kids. He simply refuses or conveniently "forgets." When I asked him why, he said his mother traumatized him about it as a child.

My children are starting to take notice now. My daughter doesn't want to go near him, and my son thinks it's OK to not brush his teeth because his father doesn't. As you can see, this is disrupting our family. What kind of advice could I give him to get him to start taking care of his mouth?

WIT'S END IN FLORIDA

DEAR WIT'S END: That your son is modeling his behavior after his father is terrible. There are psychologists who help patients overcome phobias and dentists who specialize in patients with your husband's problem. If necessary, dental work can be done under complete sedation.

If your husband would be willing to listen to your family doctor or the children's pediatrician, perhaps one of them can get through to him the importance of conquering his fear before it causes lasting damage to the next generation.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I recently began a relationship with a wonderful man I'll call "Edward." He's smart, successful, sweet and has a wonderful sense of humor. I adore him and can see myself spending many happy years, if not forever, with him.

The problem is my parents. I'm 24 and a recent college graduate. I have a good job and have been living independently since I was 19. Edward is 31, divorced and has two kids (ages 5 and 8). Because of his kids and marital status, my parents refuse to even meet him. They claim I'm making a terrible mistake being involved with someone with so much "baggage."

I am very close to my parents, and their reaction is hurtful. This is the happiest I have been in a long time in a relationship, maybe ever. Neither Edward's kids nor the fact that he's divorced is an issue for me. I've met his children and enjoy spending time with them. He has a civil relationship with his ex-wife, who also has a new partner.

Do you think my parents' reaction is fair? Do you think in time they'll come around?

BITTERSWEET IN LOVE IN MICHIGAN

DEAR BITTERSWEET: Whether your parents' reaction is fair or not is beside the point. Their feelings are their feelings. The relationship you have with Edward is new, and where it may lead is anybody's guess. If it lasts, your parents may come around. But as an adult, the choice of whom you date or will one day marry should be yours and no one else's.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

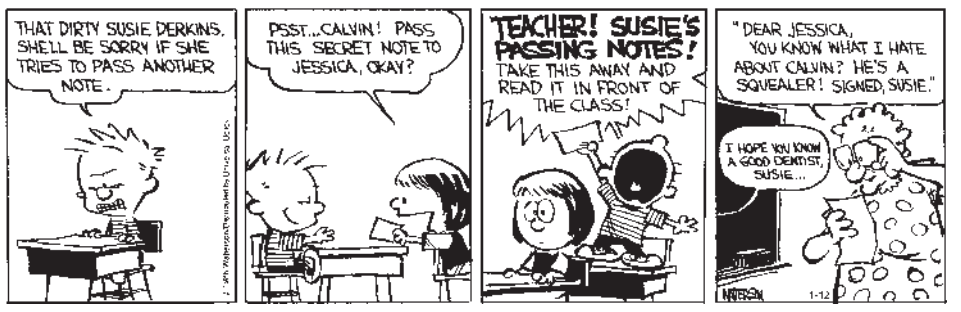
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THAT DIRTY SUSIE DERKINS. SHE'LL BE SORRY IF SHE TRIES TO PASS ANOTHER NOTE.
PSST...CALVIN! PASS THIS SECRET NOTE TO JESSICA, OKAY?
TEACHER! SUSIE'S PASSING NOTES! TAKE THIS AWAY AND READ IT IN FRONT OF THE CLASS!
"DEAR JESSICA, YOU KNOW WHAT I HATE ABOUT CALVIN? HE'S A SQUEALER! SIGNED, SUSIE."
I HOPE YOU KNOW A GOOD DENTIST, SUSIE...
WATTERSON
1-12

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ARE YOU STILL FEELING BAD?
NO! I AM NOT!
SEE WHAT I DID THERE?
I'M USING POSITIVE THOUGHTS TO TRICK MY BODY INTO NOT GETTING SICK.
WHY ARE YOU WHISPERING?
'CAUSE MY EARS ARE LISTENING!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

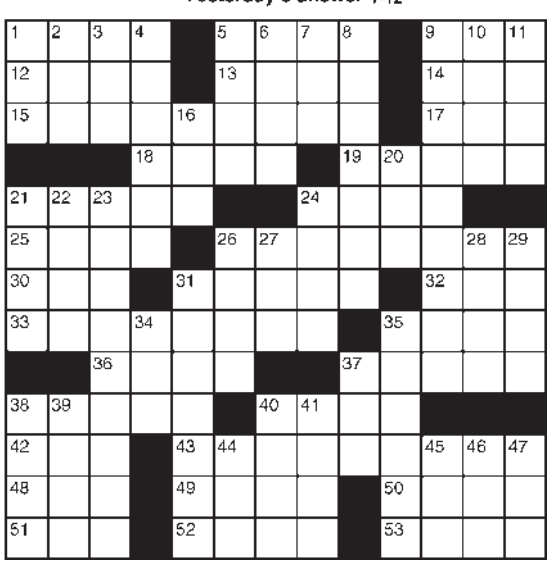
ACROSS
1 Came to earth
5 Unravel at the edges
9 Cat's "dog"
12 Trivial
13 "It can't be!"
14 Suffix with señor
15 Rocky Mountain summit
17 Buddhist branch
18 Leaning Tower city
19 Flowed like honey
21 Jacket flap
24 Coke, for one
25 Downwind
26 Family patriarchs
30 — good deed (help out)
31 Acid in proteins
32 White or Man (Abbr.)
33 Adhesive roll
35 Big butte
36 Bring in
37 Very breezy
38 "Fantasia" ballerina
40 Pod pieces
42 Bird (Pref.)
43 Hot Monopoly property
48 Baby seat
49 '80s Secretary of State Alexander
50 Optimist's credo
51 Away from WSW
52 Candied veggies
53 Dweeb

DOWN
1 Volume booster
2 Oahu garland
3 Annoy
4 Conical home (Var.)
5 Natty dressers
6 Mother of Zeus
7 Santa —, CA
8 Lennon's lady
9 Cheesy takeout orders
10 To — (just so)
11 Magic stick
16 RSVP part
20 Vintage
21 "Shane" star Alan
22 Slugger Moisés
23 War-ending smoke
24 Walking stick
26 FBI guy
27 Shred
28 Kind of prof.
29 Knock 'em dead?
31 Wither away
34 Type of dance
35 Cotton fabric
37 Opening
38 Robust
39 Tennis great Lendl
40 Strait-laced
41 ER tests
44 Tiny battery
45 Flying hero
46 Caboose, e.g.
47 Fizzle out

Solution time: 22 mins.

L	E	A	D	■	P	A	_	■	A	P	P	T
P	A	N	O	R	A	M	A	■	S	H	O	E
S	U	G	G	E	S	T	S	■	S	I	R	E
■	■	■	T	N	T	■	V	E	I	L	E	D
G	O	M	A	D	■	■	B	C	D	S	■	■
D	A	E	G	■	B	U	G	G	I	E	S	■
S	E	N	■	A	R	R	A	Y	■	P	T	A
■	M	U	G	G	F	R	S	■	T	F	A	I
■	■	■	L	E	A	S	■	M	Y	E	Y	E
R	O	B	U	S	T	■	E	A	R	■	■	■
O	V	U	M	■	H	U	G	G	A	B	L	E
M	A	_	L	■	E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R
A	L	_	Y	■	R	O	Y	■	I	A	I	L

Yesterday's answer 1-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zayn Malik, 23; Naya Rivera, 29; Oliver Platt, 56; Kirstie Alley, 65.

Happy Birthday: Don't sit back waiting for things to happen. Be proactive. Aggressive pursuits will not disappoint you or leave you feeling as if you missed out. The work you are willing to do in order to reach your goals will bring high returns. Mixing creativity with high energy will bring extraordinary results. An optimistic, can-do attitude will attract positive attention. Your numbers are 4, 11, 21, 28, 34, 41, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A sense of restraint will help you avoid divulging personal information that is not yet substantiated. You will be glad you waited when your situation becomes clear. A romantic gesture will bring you closer to the one you love. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Make plans with friends or family. Whether you vacation at home or abroad, spending time with people you love will give you the incentive you need to strive for perfection. Listen to the voices of experience and reason if faced with a decision. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Share your feelings and put whatever is bothering you to rest. You'll feel much better once you clear the air and find common ground with the people around you. Simple solutions will be your best bet. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't be afraid to do things differently. It's your uniqueness that will grab the attention of someone who can help you with your personal or professional goals. Real estate investments will work in your favor. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Being generous with loved ones will backfire. Keep your communication light and avoid being tempted to get involved in a joint venture. Romance is in the stars, and talking about your plans with someone you love will lead to a better relationship. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): When it comes to helping others, be careful not to let anyone take advantage of you. Not all demands will be as dire as you are led to believe. Keep your requests and your promises minimal. Do something that will make you happy. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Acceptance will be the key to getting through situations that you have no control over. Trust in yourself and your ability to handle whatever happens with dignity. Don't lose your sense of optimism that something good will transpire. Your actions can make a difference. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take on a challenge and use your creative imagination to solve whatever comes your way. Your insight and intense way of getting things done will separate you from your competitors. Trust in your intelligence and skill. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't overdo it. Let common sense take over and you will avoid making a costly mistake. The information you are given should be verified before you take action. Personal improvements will bring the highest returns. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Take time to go over last-minute changes you want to make to your finances, negotiations or any deal you have pending. Don't let someone else's impulsiveness drag you into a bad situation. Do your own thing. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Share your emotions, insight and plans for the future with the people who can help you make your dreams come true. Your personal life will be enhanced if you work with someone you love toward building a better future. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Observation will help you make a decision regarding someone's intentions. Don't offer to do too much for someone who is trying to impress you. Bide your time and decide whether or not you want to get involved. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are methodical, intense and forceful. You are progressive and determined.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		6			2			5
		5	6				4	
4	9	3			8			
	7				5	8		2
5		1	4				7	
			7			9	3	8
	4				3	2		
8			2			5		

Difficulty Level ★★ 1/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	1	5	4	6	3	2	9	7
3	7	2	8	9	5	1	4	6
9	6	4	7	2	1	5	8	3
6	3	9	1	8	7	4	5	2
7	2	1	6	5	4	8	3	9
4	5	8	2	3	9	7	6	1
1	8	3	5	7	6	9	2	4
5	9	7	3	4	2	6	1	8
2	4	6	9	1	8	3	7	5

Difficulty Level ★

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SEALANTS Solution: 6 letters

R	A	S	E	A	L	C	O	A	T	S	S	A	L	G
E	Q	V	A	R	N	I	S	H	G	R	M	S	D	P
L	U	B	A	R	R	I	E	R	O	A	D	E	E	I
L	A	T	E	M	U	R	E	T	S	A	P	R	N	P
I	R	N	C	N	M	B	A	K	P	A	T	I	O	E
F	I	N	O	A	A	I	B	P	A	I	N	T	I	D
S	U	C	L	I	D	H	S	E	A	M	F	F	T	I
U	M	I	O	A	T	Y	T	T	R	L	O	E	C	F
R	S	T	R	A	L	A	X	E	O	O	A	N	U	L
G	E	S	E	L	I	T	L	O	R	S	C	O	R	U
I	N	A	D	O	O	W	R	U	P	U	R	C	T	S
C	I	L	U	A	R	D	Y	H	S	E	Y	I	S	Y
A	H	E	C	I	T	S	A	L	P	N	L	L	N	L
L	S	B	U	T	Y	L	A	T	E	X	I	I	O	O
V	A	L	V	E	T	E	R	C	N	O	C	S	C	P

©2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 1/12

Acrylic, Aquariums, Asphalt, Barrier, Butyl, Colored, Concrete, Construction, Elastic, Epoxy, Filler, Floor, Gap, Glass, Hydraulic, Insulation, Latex, Mask, Metal, Paint, Paste, Patio, Pipe, Plastic, Polysulfide, Polyurethane, Radiators, Road, Roof, Rubber, Sealcoat, Seam, Shine, Silicone, Surgical, Thermal, Tile, Tires, Valve, Varnish, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Starboard

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 General Manager (Accounting): $1,000-1,800/mo. 5 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

---

1 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.05/hr. At least 1 year of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

---

(3) Fishermen, (1) Driver. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation. P.O. Box 503944 Saipan, MP 96950.

General Maintenance Worker. High school diploma or equivalent with at least 3 years' experience especially in general construction. Must have some basic knowledge and troubleshooting experience in plumbing, masonry, carpentry and other general maintenance work. Must be able to lift and move construction supplies and objects. Must be willing to work flexible hours including evenings, holidays and weekends. Send resume to GMA Corp at P.O. Box 503317, Saipan MP 96950 or email to noel96950@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) CAD Operator

- Required Bachelor's degree plus 1 year experience.
- Proficiency in AutoCAD 13, Google Sketchup 2013 and Microsoft Office.

Respond to N15 Architects by Email to **admin@n15architects.com**

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc.

Kinpachi Japanese Restaurant

Cook (3): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to provide required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Must be willing to work on flexible hours, shifts, evening, holiday and weekends. Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 6 months to a year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

www.saipantribune.com

MAKE-A-WISH®
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

JAGUAR LIMITED
DBA: CLUB MERMAID

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) WAITRESS

2-3 years experience as a waitress in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality.
- Full Time with flexible working hours.
- Salary: $6.05/hr
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESUME to PMB 697 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM – 9:00PM

NOW LEASING **SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED**

IRONWOOD

NEW 2, 3, and 4 bedroom energy efficient apartments in Saipan. Lower utility costs up to 70% through solar panels and solar hot water.

OPEN HOUSE • MONDAY-FRIDAY • 9AM - 4PM

For pictures, amenities, and application information visit our website

www.ironwoodhousing.com

or call 670-233-4348. Applications are being accepted Monday - Friday, 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. and on Saturday, 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m., at Ironwood Community Center on Middle Road, Gualo Rai.

WHATZIT Solution: Poles apart

JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORP.
DBA CLUB MICRONESIA

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) WAITRESS

2-3 years experience as a waitress in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business.

Other Qualifications:

- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality.
- Full Time with flexible working hours.
- Salary: $6.05/hr
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently.

Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502589, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545

SK COMMUNITY, INC.

Is looking for

OPERATION MANAGER

Qualifications: Must have at least 3 years experience on Managerial position for company in CNMI. Proficient in English and with good business communication skills. Can read and speak Japanese. Knowledgeable in computer programs such as: Excel, Powerpoint, and Word. Available to travel anytime and can work on flexible hours. Knowledgeable to operate and fix scuba diving and snorkeling equipment.

If interested, please call Niinuman at 670.989.7771

Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

Vacancy Announcement

Board of Directors
Northern Marianas Humanities Council

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) wishes to announce a vacancy on its board of directors.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities and to actively participate in fundraising activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Raising funds for Council programs;
- Recruiting community partners;
- Promoting awareness about the Council's mission and its programs in the community;
- Attending Council programs and activities;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Providing input about the humanities from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the Council.

Applicants are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to **Robert H. Hunter, Chair, Northern Marianas Humanities Council at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950** or delivered to the Council's office located in the Springs Plaza Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, **January 29, 2016.** For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(12) Carpenter - $6.05/hr.
(5) Plumber - $6.05/hr.
(5) Electrician - $6.05/hr.
(12) Mason - $6.05/hr.

Interested applicants must contact and submit resume to RPCF, INC.
P.O. Box 504549 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel #: 234-9127
Email: brian@pticom.com

WORLD INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Salary Rate: $6.05 per hour

QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least 2–3 years experience in a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry.
- Full-time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to PMB 654 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(01) REGISTERED NURSE

- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program and management of hemodialysis inpatient and outpatient care
- At least four years hemodialysis experience and three years as a charge nurse in dialysis
- In-service training with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate Distribution System
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- English Language Skills – Proficient in verbal, written, and comprehension
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Must be flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit their resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on Friday, January 22, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call (670) 234-2901 ext. 128.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

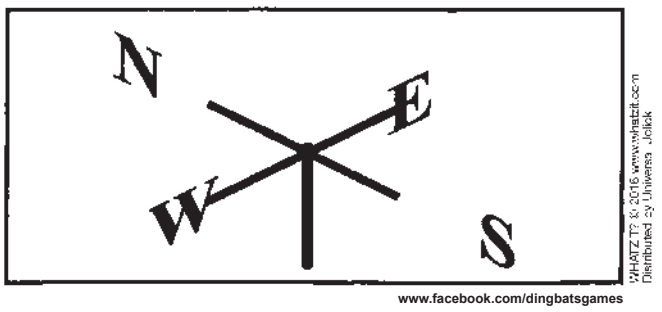
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



WHATZIT? © 2016 www.whatzit.com Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Seahawks escape with 10-9 win over Vikings after Walsh miss

AP
Minnesota Vikings kicker Blair Walsh (3) reacts after missing a field goal during the second half of an NFL wild-card football game against the Seattle Seahawks, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016, in Minneapolis.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Russell Wilson and the Seattle Seahawks needed more than three quarters to warm up at Minnesota, their quest to avenge last year's Super Bowl loss nearly frozen before it began.

The Vikings, after gritting through this grind-it-out wild-card round playoff game, booted their chance to beat the two-time defending NFC champions. Blair Walsh's 27-yard field goal try into the frigid wind hooked left with 22 seconds remaining, handing the Seahawks a 10-9 victory over the stunned Vikings on a Sunday in below-zero weather that tied for the third-coldest NFL game on record.

"A lot of people would've folded up and said, 'That's it,' but we've got a team full of fighters," Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman said.

The Seahawks (11-6) didn't score until Russell Wilson's short touchdown pass to Doug Baldwin early in the fourth quarter. Then, a fumble by Adrian Peterson for the Vikings on the next possession set up a field goal by Steven Hauschka.

The Vikings (11-6) took the ball for the deciding drive with 1:42 left at their 39 and, aided by a pass interference penalty on Kam Chancellor, drove deep into Seattle's territory. After draining the clock for the seemingly inevitable win, Walsh simply missed the winner after making all three of his earlier attempts.

"That's called grace," Chancellor said. "That's all it is."

Seattle will play next weekend at Carolina, where the Panthers had a first-round bye in balmy mid-50s weather.

"I think we were fortunate that we got the win," Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said. "A lot of those times, guys make those kicks. There's a high percentage that they make them, but you've still got to do it."

Walsh didn't hide. Holder Jeff Locke had the laces turned in, not out, but there were no excuses to be made.

"You're confident, but you never think that you have it or take it for granted," Walsh said, subdued with glassy eyes in the locker room afterward. "I just didn't put a swing on it that would be acceptable by anybody's standards."

Huddled around sideline heaters and wearing huge capes on the shaded side of the stadium, the Seahawks were subdued themselves for much of the game. Trailing 9-0 at the 13-minute mark, Wilson nearly took a huge loss on first down when he fumbled a shotgun snap he wasn't ready for. But the guy Vikings coach Mike Zimmer called "Houdini" during the week darted right, dodged a sack and found Tyler Lockett wide open for a 35-yard completion to set up the score to Baldwin.

"Just tried to extend the play," said Wilson, who went 13 for 26 for 142 yards. "Find a way."

Chancellor, who ripped the ball away from Peterson that Ahtyba Rubin recovered, missed a tackle on tight end Kyle Rudolph's 24-yard reception that let the Vikings advance to the 18 with 1:26 left. But Peterson's next three carries left the Vikings a yard short of the first down. Walsh, whose third kick was nearly blocked by Sherman, jogged out for the defining moment. And the Seahawks were suddenly celebrating an improbable win, not unlike their rally past Green Bay in the NFC championship game last year.

"It's a chip shot," Zimmer said. "He's got to make it."

The Seahawks left their last visit to Minnesota with a 38-7 victory, pure domination on both sides of the ball that left no doubt that Dec. 6 afternoon they'd be a legitimate contender to reach their third straight Super Bowl even without the ear-splitting advantage of their home by the bay at CenturyLink Field.

For all their skills, experience and swagger, though, the combination of these conditions and a well-prepared, embarrassed-by-the-previous-performance Vikings team proved to be quite the challenge.

This was a fittingly frigid finish for Minnesota's two-year stint outdoors at the University of Minnesota's TCF Bank Stadium during construction of the new covered downtown stadium. For the first au naturel postseason game here since the NFC championship game in 1976, the grizzled coach of that team, Bud Grant, served as an honorary captain. He strolled out for the coin flip in a Vikings cap and a purple short-sleeved polo shirt, looking ready for a round of golf.

The 88-year-old Grant got a roar of approval from the crowd, most of which was dressed in as many layers as those purple replica jerseys would allow. The announcement of the minus-25 degree wind chill factor a few minutes later drew an equally loud cheer.

Every mistake and break was magnified in a game like this, and the Vikings benefited for the majority of the first three quarters.

Punter Jon Ryan had to pick up a low snap on Seattle's first possession and, avoiding a potential block, tried to run up the middle before being upended by Jason Trusnik well shy of the first down. Ryan landed on his face, breaking and bloodying his nose, and the Vikings turned the shortened field into their first field goal.

Wilson, who led the NFL in passer rating after racking up a remarkable 24 touchdown passes with only one interception over the last seven games, was essentially reduced to a scrambler in the deep freeze.

Facing the wind in the second quarter, he had Baldwin wide open behind the safeties at the goal line, but the ball hung in the air and was easily batted down. Headed the same direction toward the open end of the stadium in the third quarter, Wilson overthrew Chase Coffman, and Trae Waynes intercepted the deflected pass to set the Vikings up for another field goal. Cliff Avril's roughing-the-passer penalty gifted Minnesota 15 yards on that drive.

Packers 35, Redskins 18

In Landover, Md., for Aaron Rodgers and the rest of the Green Bay Packers' offense, the first quarter of their playoff game Sunday looked quite similar to the stagnant way their regular season wound down.

Not a lot of progress. Not a lot of points. Not a lot of fun.

Rodgers opened the NFC wild-card game against the Washington Redskins by going 1 for 8, and the Packers' first four drives went: punt, safety, punt, punt. They gained all of 11 yards heading into the second period, and they trailed by double digits.

And then, spurred by using the hurry-up approach he loves, Rodgers played like a two-time NFL MVP. Drawing defensive penalties with quick snaps, making adjustments at the line of scrimmage, and running the show the way few QBs can, Rodgers threw for a pair of TDs while Eddie Lacy and James Starks each ran for a score, and Green Bay came back to overwhelm the NFC East champion Redskins 35-18.

"We got the tempo up, and they couldn't keep up," said Rodgers, who finished 21 for 36 for 210 yards and no turnovers. "We became a snowball, kind of going downhill, and it was tough for us to stop."

That was missing while the Packers were losing their final two games and six of their last 10 after a 6-0 start, letting the NFC North title slip away. And it was missing early Sunday, when Washington grabbed an 11-0 lead.

"I talked a lot the last couple weeks about being able to turn it on, and a lot of you probably thought that was lip service," Rodgers told reporters. "But we just needed a game like this to get our mojo back and get our confidence going. I said this week that it just takes one. It just takes one performance to get us going back in the right direction and believing that we can make a run."

Green Bay (11-6) will play at the No. 2 seed Arizona Cardinals on Saturday night. It's a rematch of a Week 16 game that Arizona dominated 38-8.

"The main thing is everybody just needs to realize the taste they had in their mouth last time," Packers receiver James Jones said.

In the other NFC game next weekend, the No. 1 seed Carolina Panthers will host the wild-card Seattle Seahawks on Sunday.

With the Packers and Seahawks joining the AFC's Pittsburgh Steelers and Kansas City Chiefs, it's the first time road teams went 4-0 in the wild-card round under the current NFL playoff format, which started in 1990.

Washington (9-8) had won four games in a row, but its season ends without a single victory over a team that finished with a winning record.

"I mean, it's a little sick feeling any time you lose a game at the end of the year, not matter when it is," Washington's Jay Gruden said after his first playoff game as an NFL head coach. "The opportunities we had out there today—it makes you ill."

His quarterback, Kirk Cousins, made his first playoff start after a breakthrough season and was 29 for 46 for 329 yards. He threw for one touchdown, ran for another, lost one fumble and was sacked six times.

Rodgers smirked when asked about chatter in the Washington area about which QB folks would want for the next five years.

"We don't really care about any of the expectations, whether talking about picking Kirk over myself or talking about how everybody expected us to lose this game," Rodgers said. "We don't care about those opinions out there."

He spoke about his team staying confident despite being down 11-0. Asked where that self-belief came from, Rodgers replied: "'Cause we've been there, done that."

Sure have—unlike the Redskins, last-place finishers six of the past eight seasons.

"They made adjustments and we didn't," Washington nose tackle Terrance Knighton said. "That's why they've won championships—and that's who their quarterback is."

Indeed, Rodgers, the 2011 Super Bowl MVP, turned things around in the second quarter, twice catching Washington with too many men on the field. He went 5 for 6 for 68 yards on a drive that ended with a 12-yard TD pass to Randall Cobb. When he hit Davante Adams for a 10-yard touchdown that gave the Packers a 17-11 halftime lead, Rodgers danced a little jig and threw some fist pumps.

In the second half, the running game took over. After 17 yards at halftime, the Packers finished with 141 yards on 32 carries.

"That's the way you want to play offense. When you get into playoffs, you don't have to talk about the regular season no more," Packers coach Mike McCarthy said.

Lillard scores 31 points, Trail Blazers beat Thunder, 115-110

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Damian Lillard scored 31 points, including five 3-pointers in the last 3:07, and the Portland Trail Blazers rallied to beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 115-110 on Sunday night.

CJ McCollum added 22 points for Portland, which hit a season-high 19 3-pointers to snap a three-game losing streak.

Thunder guard Russell Westbrook nearly had his fourth triple-double of the season, but fell just short with 25 points, 15 assists and nine rebounds. Last season, Westbrook led the NBA with 11 triple-doubles.

Kevin Durant had 28 points for Oklahoma City and has scored 20 or more in 23 consecutive games.

With 3:19 remaining, Andre Roberson hit a buzzer-beating 3 to put Oklahoma City up 103-95. That started a 3-point shootout. Lillard hit three consecutive 3s and Allen Crabbe drained another to cut the Thunder's lead to 108-107 with 2 minutes left.

Lillard wasn't done.

He hit two more 3-pointers to give Portland a three-point lead, and an offensive foul on Oklahoma City with a minute left brought fans to their feet.

Lillard finished with 17 points in the final quarter.

The loss snapped a four-game winning streak on the road for the Thunder.

The Blazers and Thunder kept it close in a sloppy first quarter. Steven Adams slammed down a one-handed dunk for Oklahoma City, and Maurice Harkless answered with a 3-pointer.

AP

Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard gestures after making a three point basket during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016.

Portland led 52-46 at halftime. Westbrook had just two points heading into the break.

Lillard's eight points in 2 minutes allowed the Blazers to open up their lead to 65-55 in the third quarter. Quick points from the Thunder, including a 3-pointer and a free throw by Adams and a running jumper from Durant, trimmed Portland's lead to two.

The Thunder rallied to take the lead but McCollum's 3 at the buzzer to end the third brought the Blazers to 85-80.

Cavaliers 95, 76ers 85

In Philadelphia, LeBron James raised the roof, then lifted the Cleveland Cavaliers to their seventh straight win, 95-85 over the Philadelphia 76ers on Sunday night.

James tied a season high with 37 points and pushed both hands up in the air after several powerful dunks, drawing a rise out of the nearly 20,000 fans at the Wells Fargo Center. He had nine assists and seven rebounds in Cleveland's 13th win in the last 15 games.

Even when James seems fallible he still steals the show. An unsuspecting James took an errant ball to the face during pregame warmups. The clip was a hit on social media.

The 76ers pulled as close as two points with 8 minutes left before James thwarted the upset bid. Jahlil Okafor had 21 points for the Sixers, and Ish Smith had 18 points and 10 assists.

Philadelphia is an NBA-worst 4-35.

Clippers 114, Pelicans 111, OT

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul had 25 points and 11 assists, Jamal Crawford added 21 points, and Los Angeles beat New Orleans in overtime to extend the NBA's longest active winning streak to nine games.

Two-time All-Star Anthony Davis, the Pelicans' leading scorer and rebounder, did not play because of a back contusion. He was hurt when he dove over the first row of seats chasing a loose ball early in the Pelicans' 91-86 home loss to Indiana on Friday night.

The Pelicans forced overtime when Jrue Holiday made three free throws after he was fouled by Austin Rivers on a 3-point attempt from the top of the key with 1.6 seconds left.

Los Angeles native Holiday scored 12 of his season-high 29 points off the bench in the fourth quarter to help New Orleans erase a 12-point deficit. Tyreke Evans added 26. Ryan Anderson, making his fourth start of the season in Davis' power forward spot, had 16 points and 10 rebounds in 42 minutes.

Knicks 100, Bucks 88

In New York, Carmelo Anthony had 24 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, Kristaps Porzingis had a few more highlight plays during New York's high-flying third quarter against Milwaukee.

The Knicks broke it open in the third by outshooting and outdunking one of the NBA's most athletic teams. Porzingis was at the forefront, with a sensational follow dunk on one end and a blocked shot on the other as the Knicks began pouring it on in the middle of the period.

He had 15 points for the Knicks, who won for the fourth time in five games. Greg Monroe had 28 points and 10 rebounds for the Bucks, and Khris Middleton added 20.

Grizzlies 101, Celtics 98

In Memphis, Tenn., Zach Randolph had 25 points and 13 rebounds and Memphis overcame a 21-point deficit in the second half to beat Boston.

Isaiah Thomas, who led the Celtics with 35 points, launched a 3-pointer as time expired but officials confirmed the basket came after the horn, giving Memphis its biggest comeback victory of the season.

Mario Chalmers added 18 points for the Grizzlies, hitting 11 of 13 free throws. Tony Allen finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Amir Johnson and Avery Bradley had 14 points apiece for Boston. Johnson also grabbed nine rebounds.

Rockets 107, Pacers 103, OT

In Houston Trevor Ariza scored a season-high 24 points and Corey Brewer hit the go-ahead 3-pointer in overtime to help Houston beat Indiana.

James Harden had 21 points and Dwight Howard added 21 points and 17 rebounds for his fifth straight double-double in his return after missing a game with soreness in his lower back.

Indiana's Paul George had just four points in the first half before scoring 14 of his 20 in a 27-point third quarter to help the Pacers build a big lead before Houston came back in the fourth.

Mavericks 93, Timberwolves 87

In Minneapolis, Dirk Nowitzki scored 29 points, converted a big three-point play and grabbed a key loose ball in the final seconds to lead Dallas past Minnesota.

Nowitzki hit four of Dallas' six 3-pointers.

Andrew Wiggins led Minnesota with 21 points. The Timberwolves have dropped six straight and 10 of 11.

Jazz 86, Lakers 74

In Los Angeles, Gordon Hayward scored 25 points and Utah beat Los Angeles to snap a seven-game road losing streak.

Kobe Bryant didn't play for the Lakers because of a strained right Achilles tendon.

Lou Williams led the Lakers with 18 points, eight rebounds and six assists, after scoring a career-high 44 on Friday night a home loss to Oklahoma City.

Nuggets 95, Hornets 92

In Denver, Danilo Gallinari scored 27 points, rookie Emmanuel Mudiay added 11 in his first game in a month and Denver extended Charlotte's losing streak to seven games.

The Nuggets didn't score over the final 4:17 but squeaked out the win after Nicolas Batum's shot at the buzzer clanged off the side of the rim. Mudiay was back on the court after missing 14 games with a sprained right ankle.

Nets fire coach Lionel Hollins, reassign GM Billy King

NEW YORK (AP)—The Brooklyn Nets fired coach Lionel Hollins and reassigned general manager Billy King on Sunday in the midst of their worst season since moving from New Jersey.

The Nets said assistant Tony Brown will serve as the interim head coach, and the GM position will remain open until a replacement is hired.

The Nets have lost four in a row overall and nine straight at home, where attendance has dwindled at the $1 billion Barclays Center. The Nets had made the playoffs every year since relocating for the 2012-13 season, but they are 10-27, better only than the league-worst Philadelphia 76ers.

King had been GM since 2010, orchestrating a number of high-profile moves that led to just one playoff series victory. Hollins was in his second season as coach.

AP

In a Monday, Dec. 28, 2015 file photo, Brooklyn Nets' coach Lionel Hollins calls out during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Miami Heat, in Miami.

"It's clear from our current state of affairs that we need new leadership," owner Mikhail Prokhorov said in a statement. "With the right basketball management and coach in place, we are going to create a winning culture and identity and give Brooklyn a team that it can be proud of and enjoy watching."

King worked hard to fulfill Prokhorov's goal of winning a championship within five years of buying the team in 2010, making blockbuster trades that brought in Deron Williams, Joe Johnson, Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett.

Only Johnson remains, as the Nets decided to cut costs after at one point owning the largest payroll in league history. But they haven't been competitive now and have little hope of a quick fix in the future, as their first-round pick next season goes to Boston as part of the payment from the deal that brought Pierce and Garnett in 2013.

"At every step of the way, he has been aggressive in his quest to build a winning team and has been a key factor toward the Nets making the playoffs for each of the last three seasons," Prokhorov said.

Hollins went 48-71 and, like predecessors Avery Johnson, P.J. Carlesimo and Jason Kidd, didn't last long in Brooklyn.

Joeten boosts finals bid

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Joeten inched closer to a finals stint in the 2nd JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League following a 96-81 victory against Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in their semis series opener last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Dixon Kwon led Joeten's Game 1 win, as the lefty wingman knocked in 27 points. He also drew a lot of support from his teammates with three other Joeten players finishing in double figures. Sid Quan chipped in 16 markers and Steve Rasa and Alex Lauron contributed 15 and 11, respectively.

The quartet provided Joeten consistent scoring, as the squad recorded 20-plus points in each quarter, leaving CUC with no chance to pull off an upset in Game 1 of the best-of-three semis series. CUC came into last Friday's match upbeat after stunning the second-ranked MBI/KFC in the first round of the playoffs, 79-76

CUC then managed to stay afloat in the first quarter of Game 1 of the semis series, behind by only 5, 22-27. Eugene Manglona recorded 12 points in the opening canto to keep CUC in the game. He added 8 more in the second frame, as Joeten still could not pull away leading by only 7 at the break, 49-42.

The breakaway came in the third canto with Kwon, Quan, Rasa, and Lauron teaming up in a 24-15 scoring run to lift Joeten to a 73-57 advantage. Kwon nailed 7 points in that quarter, while Quan, Lauron, and Rasa added at least 4 points apiece to open a double-digit spread.

Joeten never relinquished the twin-digit lead from thereon with Kwon and Quan finishing off CUC. The duo combined for 14 of Joeten's 22 markers in the final canto.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Joeten's Kixon Kwon stretches for a baseline layup against CUC's John Santos during the first quarter of Game 1 of their semis series in the JP World caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Manglona paced CUC's losing cause with his game-high 31 points, while John Santos was the only other CUC player to hit double figures with 17.

CUC and Joeten played Game 2 of their short series last night with the former pressed to win to avoid elimination. Also scheduled last night was the Tan Holdings-McDonald's own Game 2 with the latter gunning for the victory that would prevent the former from advancing to the finals. Results of neither match were unavailable at press time.

Joeten 96 – Kwon 27, Quan 16, Rasa 15, Lauron 11, Sambile 5, Tobias 5, Taisague 2, Jacob 2, Villegas 2.

CUC 81 – Manglona 31, Santos 17, Benavente 9, Simada 9, Poquiz 7, Nunez 4, Masga 4.

Scoring by quarters: 27-22, 49-42, 73-57, 96-81.

Maeda, Dodgers finalize $25M deal that could be worth $106M

LOS ANGELES (AP)— The Dodgers opened their wallet to sign Japanese pitcher Kenta Maeda to an incentive-laden deal that could be worth $106.2 million if he stays healthy, a risk the team was willing to take despite knowing he has had elbow issues.

After the $25 million, eight-year contract was finalized Thursday, Maeda was introduced during a news conference at Dodger Stadium.

Maeda and the Dodgers acknowledged that his physical revealed unspecified "irregularities." The 27-year-old right-hander said he's confident he will be able to pitch a full season in the major leagues.

"Despite the fact there were some irregularities found, the Dodgers made a decision to make a long-term commitment to me and that was meaningful to me," Maeda said through a translator.

Maeda and Andrew Friedman, the Dodgers' president of baseball operations, declined to get specific.

"It factored into the contract, but the fact that he's asymptomatic and pitched as recently as six weeks ago gives us as much confidence as we can have at this point," Friedman said afterward. "We're optimistic he's going to help us win a lot of games over a lot of years."

Asked why the Dodgers would take such a risk, Friedman said, "Most if not all pitchers have injury risk. We just know more about it on the front end."

Maeda gets a $1 million signing bonus, payable within 15 days of the deal's approval by the commissioner's office, and yearly salaries of $3 million.

NMSA

From Page 28

could benefit NMSA in the future. White, who is a lawyer by profession, did not name the client and did not further elaborate about the property as he is still waiting for other details of the planned donation.

Repairs and other improvement could also begin at the Oleai Sports Complex as FEMA had already released, through the Governor's Office, the grant that would fund the renovation at facilities that were damaged by Typhoon Soudelor last year.

NMSA received more than $400,000 from FEMA to fund the renovation based on the assessment made by a FEMA inspector a few days after the typhoon.

The Ada Gym, NMSA office, Francisco M. "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field, Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan softball field, and the Oleai track and field stadium suffered heavy damage when Soudelor ripped through Saipan last Aug. 2.

Resurfacing of the Oleai track is being funded separately through a Community Development Block Grant from the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. Ten construction firms, including an Australian company, have shown interest of submitting bids for the project.

NMSA executive director Tony Rogolifoi reported to the group that the money is already with the Governor's Office and is awaiting process for it to be released so renovation could now begin.

NMSA is expecting that the process and other paper work would be done after the funeral of the late governor Eloy S. Inos, who died last Dec. 28 (Dec. 29 local time) in the U.S. mainland.

The Department of Public Works is tasked to do the scope of work while other documentation and the request for proposal will go through other agencies under the Governor's Office.

Sports events like basketball and indoor volleyball leagues, and the opening of the Saipan Little League and the Saipan Baseball League are currently on hold as they await for repairs of the facilities they regularly use with their respective seasons.

NMSA is in the process of having the facilities inside the Oleai Sports Complex renovated and improved in time for Saipan's hosting of the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

The SBL will be hosting the inaugural Micronesian Baseball Classic in the middle of the year while the Northern Marianas Athletics is also aiming to bid to bring the Micronesian Athletics Championship back to Saipan.

Aside from the money from FEMA, NMSA is also eligible to apply for another grant to fund separate projects of rebuilding a new grandstand at the Tan Ko baseball field and to construct an eight-foot fence around the Oleai Sports Complex.

LOB CITY

From Page 28

beaten Sun Palace (2-0), while Chow Time is still at the bottom of the six-squad field with its 0-3 slate. Panty Droppers, Lob City, and Kagman Poksu are tied for third to fifth place with their similar 1-1 marks.

Mt. Carmel dominated Chow Time in the first half, leading at 24-4, to set up the rout. Jan Travilla gave the Lady Knights a good start, as she nailed the team's first 6 points, while the rest of her teammates took over in the remaining minutes of the opening half.

For the third time, Chow Time's inability to score early cost the team another game. Only Kimmy Ocampo hit the board for Chow Time in the first half with the guard knocking in the squad's first field goal past the halfway mark of the opening period.

Chow Time picked up its scoring in the second half, but it was not enough to save the team from absorbing its third defeat in as many matches.

In the first game, Lob City also built an early double-digit lead, 29-13, and kept its safe distance to bounce back from a 28-44 debut loss to Sun Palace.

Four Lob City players tallied double figures in their first win with Jeraldine Castillo leading the way with her 17 points. Kyla Ito chipped in 12, while Mikky Kautz and Madi Alegre added 10 each.

Castillo found her mark in the first half, scoring 17 points with 9 of them coming from downtown. She ended the opening half with back-to-back triples to lift Lob City to a 16-point halftime advantage. Ito picked up where Castillo left off, drilling 10 of her 12 markers in the second half, while Alegre contributed 8 to power Lob City to the 21-point win.

First Game

Lob City 55 – Jeraldine Castillo 17, Ito 12, M. Kautz 10, Alegre 10, Alferos 4, Jeralyn Castillo 2.

Panty Droppers 34 – Pena 10, Rogoyawa 10, Francisco 8, Abadilla 4, Dalusong 2.

Scoring by halves: 29-13, 55-34.

Second Game

MCS 39 – Manibusan 11, Travilla 10, Villagomex 7, Han 4, Flores 3, Chinen 3.

Chow Time 21 – C. Avelino 6, R. Avelino 5, Francisco 4, Ocampo 4, Cubangbang 2.

Scoring by halves: 24-4, 39-21.

BELING

From Page 28

a minute by being lazy. Take advantage of the opportunity to play and compete and have no regrets," he added.

When Beling leaves, he will bring with him a collection of awards he won from the various tournaments on the island. He debuted on Saipan via the 2013 Tan Holdings Tennis Classic where he notched three division championships—the men's open singles, men's open doubles (with fellow coach Jeff Race) and mixed open doubles (with former CNMI junior player Thea Minor). He successfully defended the men's open singles title in the same tournament for two years (2014 and 2015) and also kept the men's open doubles championship (with Loken in 2014 and Martin Jambor in 2015).

In the PIC Tennis Championships, he topped the men's open singles divisions in 2014 and 2015 and also ruled the mixed open doubles category with Mikayla Lopez in the same years.

Beling played in the Coconut Tennis Classic, too and prevailed in the mixed-up doubles with junior player Joshua Abragan in 2014.

"My most memorable tournaments were the Coconut Classics. The tournaments posed a unique and interesting challenge and allowed me to lead a junior in a real game situation as opposed to an after/pre match or practice situation," Beling said.

Meanwhile, Race thanked Beling for helping develop young players.

"He gave us a lot of help in teaching young players how to improve their games. I wish he could stay, but he received a great offer and he has to take it. I wish him good luck," the CNMI coach said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	24	15	.615	—
Boston	19	18	.514	4
New York	19	20	.487	5
Brooklyn	10	27	.270	13
Philadelphia	4	36	.100	20½

Southeast Division

Atlanta	23	15	.605	—
Miami	22	15	.595	½
Orlando	20	18	.526	3
Charlotte	17	20	.459	5½
Washington	16	19	.457	5½

Central Division

Cleveland	26	9	.743	—
Chicago	22	13	.629	4
Indiana	21	16	.568	6
Detroit	21	16	.568	6
Milwaukee	15	24	.385	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	32	6	.842	—
Dallas	22	16	.579	10
Memphis	21	18	.538	11½
Houston	19	19	.500	13
New Orleans	11	25	.306	20

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	26	12	.684	—
Utah	17	20	.459	8½
Portland	16	24	.400	11
Denver	14	24	.368	12
Minnesota	12	26	.316	14

Pacific Division

Golden State	35	2	.946	—
L.A. Clippers	25	13	.658	10½
Sacramento	15	22	.405	20
Phoenix	13	26	.333	23
L.A. Lakers	8	31	.205	28

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2015 SACAN Basketball League East Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Islander players and supporters pose with their championship trophy after beating MJD Enterprises, 79-75, in the east division finals of the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League last Saturday at the San Antonio court.

Islander's Jerry Diaz pulls up for a running shot against MJD Enterprises' Freddie Pelisamen.

Islander's Dixon Kwon, right, challenges the defense of MJD's Paul Bautista.

Islander's Prince Factor goes up for a layup against the outstretched arm of MJD's Gil Gapor.

Islander's Zack Babauta, center, drives against MJD's Paul Bautista, left, and Gil Gapor.

MJD Enterprises' Jack Lizama pulls up for a jumper in front of Islander's Prince Factor, left, and Alex Lauron, center.

Islander's Kelvin Fitial, third left, beats teammate Dixon Kwon, second from left, in the rebound battle.

MJD Enterprises' Freddie Pelisamen sneaks into the defense of Islander's James Lee, right, and Jerry Diaz, partly hidden.

MJD Enterprises' Jun Estolas unloads a jumper against Islander's Dixon Kwon.

Seahawks escape with 10-9 win over Vikings after Walsh miss

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lillard scores 31 points, Trail Blazers beat Thunder, 115-110

PAGE 25

NMSA to get help for its facilities

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The fence of the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Softball Field fell down after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan last Aug. 2, 2015.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Sports Association is expecting to get some help from its facilities improvement with several private firms making a donation and the Federal Emergency Management Administration approving a grant to renovate the Oleai Sports Complex.

NMSA president Michael A. White announced during their monthly meeting last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium's conference room that Bank of Hawaii is considering to donate some of its furniture to the Commonwealth's sports body.

"With Bank of Hawaii closing one of their branches they are considering to give some of their furniture to NMSA as a donation," said White, who added that NMSA board member Gil Birnbrich is facilitating the transfer.

Another substantial donation is a property on Tinian from one of White's clients that

See NMSA on Page 26

Lob City, MCS ease past foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lob City and Mount Carmel School registered lopsided wins in the 2015 Tan Holdings Christmas Basketball Tournament last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Lob City routed Panty Droppers in the curtain-raiser, 55-34, to notch its first win in two games, while MCS claimed its second victory after three matches following a 39-21 triumph over Chow Time in the second women's division pairing last weekend.

With its 18-point win, the Lady Knights moved up to solo second place in the team standings behind un-

See LOB CITY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mt. Carmel School's Louisa Han stops her dribble as she faces two Chow Time defenders during the second half of their game in the Tan Holdings holiday caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Beling to relocate to Hawaii

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI tennis is losing a contributor to the sport with the transfer of Luke Beling to Hawaii.

Beling, who arrived on Saipan in 2013 to teach at Whispering Palms and eventually became the tennis pro at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, has accepted the "Director of Tennis" post at Kukio Beach Club in Hawaii. He and his family will leave Saipan at the end of this month.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed working with the players of Saipan and I am very sad to leave the kids and the community. I've loved seeing the energy and enthusiasm of the players here. This has impressed me most," said Beling, who will be replaced by Peter Loken as coach and owner of Saipan Tennis Academy.

During his nearly three-year stay on Saipan, Beling worked with upcoming players and also honed the skills of some of the CNMI's junior players who represented the Commonwealth to different off-island competitions.

His advice to his students and the rest of the CNMI's junior players is to continue playing.

"Play matches and then more matches. Don't worry about who you are playing against or what the score is. Respect and enjoy the journey and the process of becoming a tennis player," the former Campbellsville University standout said.

Beling, who was once ranked in the Top 15 in South Africa junior tennis, also wishes that the island's youth players aspire to play higher level tennis.

"My hope is that all those who pursue tennis set and chase goals that seem impossible to reach. Dream and pursue being a pro or playing college if that's in your heart. Work hard, don't waste

See BELING on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Luke Beling makes a backhand return during a photo shoot for *TAGA Sports* in 2014 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.